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JANUARY 07, 2010
ISSUE 841

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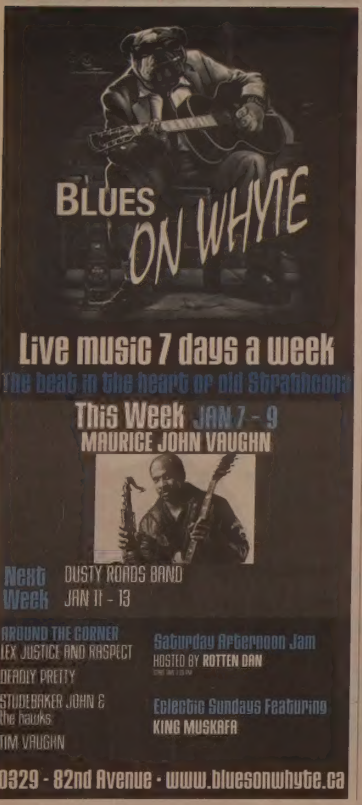
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DEATH COMES TO KIDS IN THE HALL

No, nobody died. But those crazy kids have a new show, Death Comes to Town. SEE talks to Bruce McCulloch.

PHOTO SUPPLIED

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> FIVE OR 10 YEARS AGO, TATTOO REMOVAL PEOPLE WERE CONSIDERED THE ENEMY. BUT **MY GOAL IS THE SAME AS THEIRS** (TATTOO ARTISTS); TO HAVE A TATTOO PEOPLE ARE HAPPY WITH.

FEATURE • **TATTOO REMOVAL** • BY MAURICE TOUGAS | 936 words

Laser Erases Tattoos — And Bad Memories

This Will Sting Just A Bit | Ben Alway uses a laser to remove a client's tattoo. PHOTOS BY MERYL SMITH LAWTON/EPIC PHOTOGRAPHY

GROWTH IN POPULARITY OF TATTOOS CREATES A DEMAND FOR BUSINESS THAT CAN ERASE THE ARTWORK

It may seem like having a weight loss clinic inside a McDonald's, but in one Edmonton tattoo parlor you can find a guy who will remove your skin art with a laser.

Working independently as Second Skin laser tattoo removal in the Urge II Tattoo downtown, Ben Alway will slowly laser away unwanted skin art.

Alway is definitely not an anti-tattoo crusader. One look at his fully tattooed arms – and the tattoo flame peeking out from the neck of his T-shirt – tells you he's a man who appreciates the artform. He's been into tattoos for about 20 years, long before they emerged from being the almost exclusive preserve of sailors and convicts to mainstream acceptance.

"When I got my first tattoo, it was kinda go to the wrong side of town, across the train tracks, and get tattooed by a biker," says Alway. "That was part of the experience."

So if he likes tattoos so much, why has he opened a business erasing them? Doesn't that make him the mortal enemy of the tattoo industry?

"Five or 10 years ago, tattoo removal people were considered the enemy," he admits. "But my goal is the same as theirs (tattoo artists); to have a tattoo people are happy with."

Alway says he has invested about $115,000 on his laser setup. The laser machine cost about $100,000, and another $15,000 went into a machine that blows extremely cold air upon the removal site, lessoning the pain and taking some of the heat out of the skin.

Getting rid of a tattoo takes commitment, and money.

A laser session is fast – usually about five minutes and rarely as high as 15. Costs fall between $150-$300 per treatment, but it could take several visits to fully erase a tattoo.

The laser is set to seek out colours (Alway could put the laser on untattooed skin, and you wouldn't feel it). When it finds the colour it is set to, it breaks the pigment up into tiny fragments, which are then absorbed into the body and flushed out. Healing takes a week or two, and the fading occurs over a six-to-eight-week span.

How long it takes depends on the tattoo. A decades old tattoo may fade almost immediately, while a newer tattoo with strong lines will take a lot longer.

"Every tattoo has a different personality and a different response to the treatment."

Alway refutes the urban myths surrounding tattoo removal. For instance, it's not as painful as you might think, he says. It's not comfortable, mind you, but not a lot worse than actually getting a tattoo. Scarring is minimal, and there is usually none at all, he says.

Strangely enough, laser tattoo removal is not particularly well regulated in Alberta.

What Alway found when he looked into tattoo removal is that there was very little in the way of regulation. The procedure falls under esthetics, not unlike hairstyling and laser hair removal.

Alberta's doctors, however, want more rules in place for the use of lasers. Dr. Bryan Ward, Deputy Registrar, College of Physicians & Surgeons of Alberta, said in statement to *See*: "The use of lasers on humans for cosmetic or health services is not a "restricted activity" under the Health Professions Act, meaning that lasers may be applied to humans by non-regulated persons. The College of Physicians & Surgeons of Alberta did ask government to add the use of lasers on humans to the list of restricted activities but, so far, government has not chosen to do so."

Still, says Alway, the worst case scenario is scaring.

"I'm not going to put anyone in the hospital with this."

Alway feels the mainstream acceptance of tattoos will make removal a growth industry. He feels because the explosive growth in the business, a lot of unqualified people are tattooing.

"There is no trade for tattoo artists," he says. "You can just hang out your shingle and say 'I'm a tattoo artist'." He feels that there will be lots of people with crummy tattoos who will be anxious to get rid of them, which will be great for business.

Quality of the tattoo aside, "the person you are at 18 or 19 is very different from the person you are at 30 and 40.

"You may not think that Yosemite Sam or Daffy Duck is so cute anymore."

The collapse of a relationships is a common reason for tattoo removal; everything from names of former lovers tattooed "all over the body" to symbolic wedding ring tattoos.

A lot of his business deals not with entirely obliterating tattoos, but in lightening or fading them so something better can be put over top.

Business is good and getting better, to the point where he is making a living with it. Clientele is split almost 50/50 between men and women, and comes from all age brackets. Younger clients (he's had some under 18 who had to come in with their parents) typically want to get rid of a tattoo to make room for another; older clients have just grown tired of the design. Some of the older clients have vintage tattoos they got decades before that Alway, as a student of tattoos, hates to remove.

"I feel bad lasering them. Tattooing was something different back then. You were really making a statement."

He's had only one client "tap out" because the pain was too much. The tattoo he was removing was in the upper groin region, and removal was just too sensitive for the man.

In addition to dermatologists, there is at least one other non-medical place you can have tattoos removed in Edmonton – Lotus Laser Removal, which operates out of the University Hospital.

WITNESS

JAN. 4, 2010 | 9:39 AM | PHOTO BY JOHN ULAN/EPIC PHOTOGRAPHY

Students from St. Cecilia Catholic School in Edmonton write notes about, and to their former teacher, and slain reservist soldier, Sgt. George Miok on Monday.

NEWS · CARRYING A TORCH · BY ANDREW PAUL | 266 words

Torch Run In Town

Ribbon of Red | Route of Olympic torch run with times. MAP COURTESY OF CITY OF EDMONTON

CITY EXPECTS BIG CROWDS AS VANCOUVER OLYMPIC FLAME MAKES CITY APPEARANCE

As the 2010 Vancouver Winter Olympics approach, Edmontonians will get their chance to show support for Canada's athletes as the Olympic torch relay passes through the City of Champions on Wednesday, Jan 13.

"We've embarked on a campaign called Paint the Town Red," explains Ellen Finn, Director of Civic Events Office. "And we encourage everyone to come out and support the torch by wearing red, which is a symbol of support for the Team Canada athletes."

As the torch begins its 14-km stretch through the city, spectators are encouraged to cheer on the parade of 50 torchbearers as they make their way past the University of Alberta campus, down Whyte Avenue, across the Walterdale Bridge, to the Alberta Legislature, and eventually down Jasper Avenue to Churchill Square.

Once there, former speedskater and Olympian Doreen Ryan will light the community cauldron around 7 p.m.

To accommodate the anticipated crowds, the city has created six special event sites along the route that will offer entertainment while spectators wait for the torch to pass. Entertainment will include stage shows at End of Steel Park, and video projections of historical sporting events that will be cast onto Whyte Avenue storefronts between 109th Street and 104th Street.

The other entertainment sites are located at the Butterdome, Alberta Legislature, Victoria Promenade, Abbey Glen Park and finally Churchill Square where poet laureate Roland Pemberton will be joined by Edmonton's official ukulele cover band the Be Arthurs to get the party started at 5:45 p.m.

"It's about people enjoying and celebrating Canada and our role in this international event," Finn says.

Motorists travelling along the route can expect minor delays as the Edmonton Police Service conduct rolling closures of roadways intersecting the relay route. However, city spokeswoman Jacqualine Ladouceur says no road will be closed for more than 15 minutes as the torchbearers make their way through town. The only exception being streets near the Butterdome, Victoria Promenade, and Churchill Square which will be closed for the duration of the festivities to allow for entertainment and congregating crowds. More information can be found on the city website, www.edmonton.ca

Think you know about the BIRDS and the BEES?
Savagelove pg.23

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"IT JUST SHOWS YOU THAT WAR DOESN'T HAVE ANY FAVOURITES. IT'LL TAKE ANYONE — GOOD MEN, BAD MEN.

— St. Cecilia student Lucas Nowosiad, 14, mourning the loss of teacher George Miok, killed in Afghanistan Dec.30. Quoted in the Edmonton Sun Jan. 5.

ANOTHER BLOW TO TORY DYNASTY

Hear that cracking noise?

It's the sound of fissures appearing in the monolith that is the Progressive Conservative Party of Alberta.

Two Calgary-area MLAs, career politician Heather Forsyth and first-termer Rob Anderson, left the governing party on Monday to join Danielle Smith's Wildrose Alliance. While the Tories have circled the wagons, proclaiming their ever lasting devotion the their dear leader Ed Stelmach, the defections — coupled with last year's byelection loss in Calgary and the party's plummeting polling numbers — indicate serious rot has set in.

Of the two, Anderson is the bigger loss to the Tories. An arthritic party cannot afford to lose anyone born post 1950. Anderson is just 32, and although he can hardly be described as a bright light in the party, losing a young MLA hurts the Tory image. Losing Forsyth is not that big a deal. It's easy to see Forsyth as a sour old crank who couldn't get over losing the perks of being a cabinet minister. Depending on your point of view, the defectors either acted on political conviction, or political expediency. They were both elected, by wide margins, as Conservatives (see the By The Numbers chart below). History gives little indication of whether they will be rewarded, or punished, for crossing the aisle. Obscure MLA Gary Masyk jumped from the Tories to the Alberta Alliance in 2004, and was promptly turfed in the next election. Jumping in the other direction is safer. Gene Zwozdesky was elected as a Liberal, left the party to join the Tories, and has had no trouble retaining his seat. Stan Woloshyn made the improbable jump from New Democrat to Tory in 1983, and won repeated re-election after that.

What the future holds for Anderson and Forsyth remains to be seen. But in the present, their arrival gives the Wildrose a huge boost in the legislature. They can legitimately claim official party status (they have one more seat than the New Democrats), which means guaranteed time and the third question every day in Question Period, along with funding for research and staff.

These defections are only the latest sign that the Tory dynasty is in an advanced state of decay. Only time — and an election — will tell if the rot can be reversed.

DEMOCRACY PROROGUED BY HARPER

On Dec. 30, while Canadians were snoozing during the traditional Christmas-New Year's too-much-turkey induced lull, Harper arbitrarily prorogued the current session of Parliament, pulling the plug on the democratic process.

Why did he take this action? The reasoning — that it gives the government a chance to retool its legislative agenda, or some such rubbish — is lame at best, insulting at worst. The bottom line is that Harper just didn't want to have the albatross of Parliament hanging around his neck while the world visits Canada during the Olympic Winter Games.

Harper's decision is the most high-handed, arbitrary and dictatorial in his three years as PM. The fact he can pull off such a brazen manoeuvre, and Canadians only yawn in response, is a disgrace.

BY THE NUMBERS • CROSSING THE FLOOR

NUMBER OF VOTES TURNCOAT PC MLAS RECEIVED IN 2008 ELECTION AS TORIES COMPARED TO VOTES RECEIVED BY WILDROSE CANDIDATES
SOURCE: ELECTIONS ALBERTA

AIRDRIE-CHESTERMERE
ROB ANDERSON (PC) 9,374
JEFF WILLERTON (WILDROSE) 2,362

CALGARY FISH CREEK
HEATHER FORSYTH (PC) 6,883
JAMIE BUCHAN (WILDROSE) 1,261

COMMETARY • TRANSIT (1,025 WORDS)

At The Mercy of Public Transit

OUTSIDE POLITICS MAURICE TOUGAS

EDMONTON TRANSIT IS DOING THE JOB FOR THIS COMMUTER ... WELL, MOST OF THE TIME

I am a commuter.

Big deal, I hear you say. Hundreds of thousands of Edmontonians are commuters, defined as some poor sod who has to go from his home to work every day.

Well, it's a big deal to me. After a couple of years as a freelance writer (a euphemism for being unemployed with occasional spurts of poorly paid work), I am now in the employ of *SEE Magazine*. So, the answer to the question I often hear is, yes, I do get paid to write this crap.

When I was self-employed, my daily commute consisted of a walk upstairs to my office, which took, even on a day with heavy traffic, 10 seconds. Now I go from my home to the *SEE* office, and it takes considerably longer.

I've done plenty of commuting in my previous jobs, but this is the first time that I have relied on the Edmonton Transit System to get me to and from work.

And ... I hate it. It's not you, ETS, it's me. I just hate the whole idea of depending on somebody else's timetable to get me where I want to go.

Taking public transit is the "right thing to do" on the economic and environmental point of view. But the slight feeling of moral superiority I got over those selfish, earth-hating people who drive themselves to work in their exhaust spewing, global warming aiding, polar bear killing motor vehicles disappeared the first day I waited 10 minutes for a bus in -25C temperatures. That was on the second day.

There are plenty of pluses to busing.

On a good day, once you've settled into your seat, it all seems perfectly sensible, even noble. I read a book or a newspaper, listen to my iPod, and relax. If we get caught in traffic, it's not my problem. If it's snowing heavily, it's not my problem. On a good day, I arrive at work in a reasonably calm state of mind, ready to begin the day with a vigorous nap.

Overall, I haven't found too much to complain about when it comes to Edmonton Transit. In my admittedly limited experience with ETS, I have found the buses run pretty close to their stated time, give or take a few minutes. The fact that ETS runs as efficiently as it does is a bit of a marvel. According to ETS, their fleet encompasses more than 1,000 buses, more than 170 routes, and an LRT system (which I love) with 57 vehicles and 13 stations. Again according to ETS, on a typical day about 16 per cent of Edmonton's population makes use of ETS.

Like anything else, when it works well, you don't even think about it. It's when something goes wrong that ETS mutates from reliable public transit system to a system direct from Hades and scheduled by Lucifer himself.

Take one day last week. I usually take the LRT – again, love the LRT – to the South Campus station and transfer to the no. 104 bus which takes me almost to my home. There's about a 10 minute gap between LRT and bus, during which time I spend huddled in the station, which is

TOUGAS cont'd on pg. 7

COLUMN · YEAR IN REVIEW | 1,020 words

Lingley's Best Of The Edmonton Scene In 2009

MY TOWN SCOTT LINGLEY

OUR MAN LINGLEY LOOKS BACK ON HIS EDMONTON ENTERTAINMENT HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR JUST PAST

As the 2000s opened, I worked as one of two editors at *SEE Magazine*. Though I did lots of kinds of stuff, my job title was Arts Editor and one of my favourite parts of the year was compiling best-of lists around Christmas time. To this day I'm compulsive about reading other people's top anythings of the year every winter so I can find out about all the things I miss out on by not being young anymore.

I wanted to use this space to trot out my own top thingies list of 2009, but when I started thinking about it I realized that a lot of the snapshot moments of the past year took place at live music venues. So let's go with that as a theme, shall we? (Oh and by the way: the best new album I heard in 2009 was Meanderthal by Torche AND I don't give a shit what any of you say, I'm not going to waste three hours of my life on another Quentin Tarantino movie.)

Chronologically, here are some of the high points that made me glad to call Edmonton "My Town":

That's Edmonton for You! (June 14): Hard to forget what a roasting hot day this was to go out on the banks of the North Saskatchewan, but Trevor Anderson's local star-powered musical Edmon-stravaganza made it worth the sunstroke. Throngs turned out to bake on the barren plain of Louise McKinney Riverfront Park to and take in a free song cycle and recitative about their very own hometown with something to say about community and sustainability, plus there were not one but two drummers on stage WITH GONGS. Anderson couldn't have scripted a better finale than when all the performers joined in on Ted Wright's We are Mountains, the might of which knocked out the sound system momentarily. The album with the music is still available for free download at thatsedmontonforyou.com

Best folk fest ever (Aug. 6-9): Was it? Who can tell after 30 of them? All I know is that it didn't rain once all weekend, I happened upon loads of great music – from Sharon Jones to Iron and Wine, from Mongolian honky tonkers Hooggai to the Nordic elf-metal of Eivor – without even trying, and a very nice young fella from a local death metal band returned the cell phone I lost on the hill. I'll tell you something else: next year at Folk Fest I'm seeing Levon Helm and Calexico.

Corb Lund at the Empress Ale House (Sept. 21): This year Corb Lund played his own show the "Edmonton Coliseum" and sang the national anthem at an Oilers game, so the chances of seeing him on a floor-level stage in a crowded pub in 2009 seemed remote. And yet there a bunch of us were watching Corb and his Hurtin' Albertans trot out tunes from a new album from a dimly lit corner of the Empress, with barely enough room for two-stepping. It was like a cool people reunion from the early 2000s, except that I was invited!

The Secretaries self-titled CD release (Oct. 10) and Jeff Stuart and the Hearts "Black Dogs Blue Giants" CD release (Nov. 11) at the Pawn Shop: What was remarkable about these two CD release shows – aside from the astonishing calibre of the music-making and the attention to entertaining detail in putting on a show – was what a large and varied contingent of admirers these local artists drew drew. The Secretaries might have had the edge spectacle-wise in terms of glamour and shameless brass section, but both performances blew me away with their musical depth and the communal sense of local pride that overtook the room when the headliners hit the stage.

Bands as bands and DJs as DJs Halloween extravaganza, Brixx Grill/Starlite: it seems like a logistical nightmare to put 10 local bands (disguised as famous rock acts) and 10 DJs (as well-known DJs) in the same venue on one night, but I had a great time running the stairs between the Starlite and Brixx as one combo after another interpreted the oeuvre of a notable artist. The White Stripes upstairs, the B-52s downstairs, a bang-on REM on the big stage followed by a pretty fucking awesome SNFU downstairs. And inventiveness with which Edmontonians play dress-up to usher in Samhain never fails to impress (and, often, arouse).

Tuesday night jam sessions (every Tuesday) at the Yardbird Suite: I got a freelance assignment to write about jazz in Alberta and the first thing I thought to do was start going to the Yardbird Suite on Tuesday nights to hang out and "gather background" (ie: drink beer). It gave me a chance to remember dozens of great nights I've spent there, to reconnect with artists whose lack of well-deserved wider recognition has not bedimmed their passion for the music, and to gently mock and secretly admire the jazz-geek devotion of jam night regulars. It's the best entertainment value for $5 you will find anywhere in Edmonton, on any night of the year.

Vic Chesnutt (Nov. 22) at the Starlite Room: the one and only Edmonton appearance by the late American folksinger – backed by an all-star mostly-Canadian post-rock orchestra – reverberates now like a sucker punch with the sudden, tragic passings in and around Edmonton's creative communities that mar 2009 in the heart and memory. Prolific arts commentator Gilbert Bouchard, a good friend to a long procession of *See* editors, was among those we lost.

Swaddled against a wintery Sunday night, Chesnutt looked like a pile of laundry in a wheelchair with a guitar slung over it, but his keening voice filled the room with beauty and pain and peculiar wonder, rising easily above the battery of distorted guitars that surrounded him. Not a neck-hair in the room was left unraised. Chesnutt left us with a chilling a capella encore and went away to die by his own hand on Christmas Day, stirring up all those other cruel absences that accrued to us over the course of 2009. Here's hoping we're all still hanging together when the time comes to ring down the curtain on 2010.

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DINING · CARIBBEAN · BY SCOTT LINGLEY | 618 words

Hot Food On A Cold Night

NEW IRIE FOODS RESTAURANT NEEDS SOME FINE TUNING, BUT SHOWS POTENTIAL

IRIE FOODS & LABISH BAR
10152A - 82nd Ave. 780-757-2022

Word that Irie Foods, a Caribbean mainstay of Mill Woods' polyglot restaurant scene, was branching out into Old Strathcona was greeted with some rejoicing in my household, which seems to have ready access to everything but jerk chicken, oxtails and goat roti. Fact is, most places that serve the cuisine of the former West Indies are not what you'd call centrally located.

Just a soberingly brisk stroll west of the Empress on Whyte Avenue, Irie Foods (featuring Labrish Bar) recently assumed residence of Churro King's former realm. It's a whole new space, of course, an amiable and clean walk-in type place that just needs to be lived in a little while to take on a more welcoming atmosphere.

The pleasant server got us settled with menus and promptly delivered a pair of caustically gingery Jamaican ginger beers while we perused the intriguing menu. Seriously, the ginger beer was nose-stingingly powerful, perhaps not the ideal complement to what was sure to be a spicy meal.

There's so much I wanted to try on the menu, I was a bit stumped. My co-diner quickly decided on jerk pork ($17). I finally settled on escovitched fish ($16), a dish I'd only tried once -- at the wonderful A Yah Mi Deh! on 118th Avenue and 44th Street -- but enjoyed greatly. The promise of a side of johnny cakes also piqued my interest. Both entrees came with choice of soup or salad. Our server tried to keep her opinions out of if, but she did steer us past the salt fish fritters to the breadfruit ($9) as an appetizer.

Early on a Saturday evening it wasn't that busy, but the skeleton staff seemed a little harried. The server seemed to be helping out in the kitchen as well, so the wait between visits came as no surprise. Before too long, we received our plate of breadfruit, four big slices of it expertly fried so that they barely betrayed a trace of oil. Tasty, with a crisp exterior and creamy interior, they stood up well to the jerk sauce-mayo dip and stanched the prickly heat of ginger beer still fizzing angrily in the esophagus.

Cultivating a nice buzz from the exciting Kentucky Church Bus reunion gig that afternoon, we weren't bothered that our meals took a little while; food made to order is never a bad thing. We watched with mounting excitement as other patrons' mouthwatering dishes came out, wondering what shape our repasts would take on the attractive white enamel serveware. At last our moment came; the server set our heaping plates before us and went to get the water jug, since ginger beer would only aggravate the complex and copiously spiced repasts before us.

The jerk pork was heavily slathered with the spicy, aromatic seasonings and deliciously seamed with fat, falling apart at the merest prompting of the fork, and the hearty rice and peas (beans, actually) were perfect for sopping up the gravy-like juices and stray shreds.

The escovitched fish went less well. The oddly Slavic-sounding preparation refers to marinating sliced peppers, onions and carrots in vinegar, fiery scotch bonnet peppers and aromatic allspice, draping them over fish fillets and pan-frying the works, or at least that's how I understood it. But the whole fish (minus the head) that lurked under the layer of vinegared veggies on my plate was a touch overdone, so that once the bones, fins and inedible crisp-fried coating were separated away, there wasn't a huge portion of fish to go with the tangy carrots and onions. The johnny cakes, customarily flat, were deep-fried knots of dough that tasted like unsweetened donuts and went well with the side of jerk-dip, but emphasized the dryness of the fish.

Both the co-diner and I are suckers for bread pudding and were glad we gave in to the temptation to try the sweet potato pudding with ice cream ($4.50). Dense, moist, sweet and molasses-y, one serving was more than enough for the pair of us, as every bite seemed like its own little serving of dessert.

There were definitely enough highlights in this inaugural visit to Irie Foods to give reason for a revisit and some experimentation with other parts of the menu -- oxtails, rotis and jerk chicken still remain untested -- but I might look to the Caribbean joints out on the fringes next time I need something escovitched.

THE TAB: $50 FOR TWO (FOOD ONLY)
THE GIST: CARIBBEAN EATERY FINDING ITS FEET
TRY THE: JERK PORK
AVOID: INEDIBLE BITS

EVENTS

100 GRAND RELEASE PARTY *THE BABY SEAL CLUB, 10122-81 AVE. JAN 8* Zine launch by Steven Babish, with live entertainment. 8 p.m.

ARTS MARKET *CARROT COMMUNITY ARTS COFFEE HOUSE, 9351-118 AVE.* Artists and artisans sharing unique gifts with local flavour. Every Sat. From 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Info: www.thecarrot.ca.

CARROT VISUAL ARTISTS COLLECTIVE *CARROT COMMUNITY ARTS COFFEE HOUSE, 9351-118 AVE.* For visual artists. Second Wednesday of every month. 7 p.m.

DEEP FREEZE FESTIVAL *ALBERTA AVENUE COMMUNITY CENTRE, 9210-118 AVE. JAN 9-10* Ice and snow sculptures, art market, ethnic food, outdoor activities, and a dance. Info: 908-3126/www.artsontheave.org.

FARMER'S MARKET *ALBERTA AVENUE HALL, 9718-118 AVE.* Every Thu, year round. 2 p.m.

FREE FAMILY ART NIGHTS *NINA HAGGERTY CENTRE, 9704-111 AVE.* For Parents and children up to 17. Every Thu. 6:30 p.m. Info: 474-7611.

HE(ART) BEAT *LATITUDE 53, 10248-106 ST. JAN 9* Fashion and Photo Show. 8 p.m.

MONTHLY VEGAN AND VEGETARIAN POTLUCK *RIVERDALE COMMUNITY HALL, 9231-100 AVE. JAN 10* 5:30 p.m. Info: www.vofa.ca.

ROAST BEEF DINNER *STRATHCONA PLACE SENIORS CENTRE, 10831 UNIVERSITY AVE. JAN 13* Info: 433-5282.

SPORTSWORLD ROLLER SKATING DISCO *SPORTSWORLD, 13710-104 ST.* Thursday and Friday at 7 p.m. Saturday at 1 p.m., and 7 p.m. Sunday at 1 p.m. Info: www.sports-world.ca.

MEETINGS

AWA 12 STEP SUPPORT GROUP *BRAEMORE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, #8 BERNARD DR., ST. ALBERT* A weekly meeting to support members of alcoholic and dysfunctional families. Mondays at 7:30 p.m.

BOOKS AND BITES--TEEN BOOK CLUB *ST. ALBERT PUBLIC LIBRARY, 5 ST. ANNE STREET, ST. ALBERT JAN 7* A program for Grades 7-12, with a different theme each month. 7 p.m. Info: 418-6623/www.sapl.ab.ca.

CANADIAN MENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION *10045-111 ST.* Weekly drop-in support group. Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. Info: 414-6311.

OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS *MISERICORDIA HOSPITAL, 16940-87 AVE.* Weekly support meetings. Saturdays at 11 a.m. Info: 423-2546.

LEARNING

ARGENTINE TANGO CLASSES WITH CRISTINA & VICENTE *ORANGE HALL, 10335-84 AVE.* Beginners, intermediate/advance. Mondays at 7:30 p.m. Info: 905-8505/vamtango@yahoo.ca.

AWAKENING THE RIVER OF YOUR HEARTSONG *GIANT PERCUSSION STUDIO, 7252-101 AVE.* Vocal improvisation with Marcus Fung. Mondays at 7 p.m. Info: 485-2515.

COMEDY WORKSHOPS *THE LAUGH SHOP, 2ND FLOOR, 10368 WHYTE AVE.* With professional headliner. Tuesdays at 6 p.m. Info: 476-1010.

LATIN NIGHT *FUNKY BUDDHA, 10341 WHYTE AVE.* Dance lessons. Wednesdays at 9 p.m. Info: 433-9676.

MARIMBA LESSONS *DANCE PERCUSSION STUDIO, 7252-101 AVE.* Thursdays at 7 p.m. Info: 485-2515.

MEDITATION AND BUDDHIST PRACTICE *KARMA TASHI LING, 10502-70 AVE.* Wednesdays at 7 p.m. Info: www.karmatashiling.ca.

OLD TYME FIDDLE JAM *PLEASANTVIEW COMMUNITY HALL, 10860-57 AVE.* Free fiddle lessons. Mondays at 7 p.m. Info: 456-8510.

SWING DANCE AT SUGAR FOOT STOMP *ORANGE HALL, 10335-84 AVE.* Beginner lessons followed by dance. Every Sat. 8 p.m.

TANGO CLASSES *ORANGE HALL, 10335-84 AVE.* Thursdays at 7:30 p.m. Info: 905-8505.

WITH A LATIN TWIST *ENCORE CLUB, #116, 957-FIR ST.* Salsa dance lessons. Thursdays at 9 p.m.

WRITER'S CIRCLE *CARROT COMMUNITY ARTS COFFEE HOUSE, 9351-118 AVE.* Writing workshop every Tue of month. 7 p.m.

QUEER

BISEXUAL WOMEN'S COFFEE GROUP *VARIOUS LOCATIONS* A social group for bi-curious and bisexual women. Every 2nd Tue of the month. 8 p.m. Info: www.groups.yahoo.com/group/bwedmonton.

BOOK WORM'S BOOK CLUB *(SECOND CUP (112 ST. & JASPER AVE.)* Every Wednesday. 7:30 p.m. Info: bookworm@teamedmonton.ca.

COFFEE & OPEN MIC NIGHT *PRIDE CENTRE, 9540-111 AVE.* Saturdays at 4 p.m. Info: 488-3234.

D.I.Y. WEDNESDAYS *PRIDE CENTRE, 9540-111 AVE.* Various do it yourself projects. 3 p.m. Info: 488-3234.

DRAG QUEEN PERFORMANCE SHOW *BUDDY'S PUB, 11725B JASPER AVE.* Sundays.

GLBT SPORTS AND RECREATION-BOOTCAMP *ST. ALPHONSUS, 11624-81 ST.* Mondays at 7 p.m. Info: bootcamp@teamedmonton.ca.

LIVING POSITIVE *#404, 10408-124 ST.* Confidential support group for people living with HIV. Tuesdays at 7 p.m. Info: 877-975-9448/488-5768.

MEN TALKING WITH PRIDE *PRIDE CENTRE, 9540-111 AVE.* A social discussion group for gay, bisexual and transgendered men to discuss current issues and to offer support to each other. Every Sun. 7 p.m. Info: robwells780@hotmail.com.

PROFESSIONAL COUNSELLING *PRIDE CENTRE, 9540-111 AVE.* Every Wednesday except for the first Wednesday of every month. 7 p.m. Info: 488 3234.

SENIORS DROP-IN *PRIDE CENTRE, 9540-111 AVE.* A social and support group for seniors of all genders and sexualities to talk, have tea and offer each other support. Every Tue and Thu 1 p.m. Info: tuff@shaw.ca.

TESG *PRIDE CENTRE, 9540-111 AVE.* Transgender Education and Support Group: Education and support for transgender, transsexual and questioning people in any stage of transition. Second Tue of month. 7:30 p.m. Info: admin@pridecentreofedmonton.org.

YOUTH UNDERSTANDING YOUTH *PRIDE CENTRE, 9540-111 AVE.* Every Saturday at 7 p.m. Info: www.yuyedm.ca/248-1971.

ACTIVISM

EDMONTON SMALL PRESS ASSOCIATION *UPPER CRUST CAFÉ, 10909-86 AVE.* An activist arts organization, seeking socially conscious artists, and production volunteers on an ongoing basis. Wed at 7 pm. Info: 434-9236 or contact@edmontonsmallpress.org.

PEACE AMBASSADORS INITIATIVE *ROUGE LOUNGE, 10111-117 ST.* A youth group promoting anti-racist and diversity workshops. Mondays 5-7 pm. Education North 4-104, U of A Campus Info: 425-4644 or www.naarr.org/Youth/index.htm.

WE MUST DO BETTER *BOYLE MCCAULEY HEALTH CENTRE, 10628-96 ST. JAN 12* Kevin Kuckman presents Edmonton Social Planning Council's latest report on poverty. 7 p.m. Info: 422-7333.

TOUGAS (cont'd from p. 5)

heated by what appear to be about a dozen ceiling heaters that give out about as much heat as the candles on grandpa's birthday cake. The huddled masses stand quietly, waiting for their bus to arrive to deliver them home.

My bus was supposed to arrive at 25 minutes past hour. At the appointed time, nothing. Five minutes later, nothing. Another five minutes later, nothing. The crowd grew, and you could feel the distress level rising. You can't hear it, because bus users rarely speak to each other.

Twenty minutes after its scheduled time, still no bus. But into view comes the 105, which runs almost the same route. And then, directly behind the 105 ... another 105. This results in a fairly hilarious routine between a would-be 104 passenger, who has been waiting for an hour for his bus trying to convince the driver of the second 105 to change his number to 104. Eventually, the 104 shows up, and a busload dissatisfied passengers shoehorns on board. My 40-minute trip home became a 90-minute urban ordeal.

There is another thing that can, and does, go wrong on the buses, but there's nothing ETS can do about it. They're called passengers.

Most of the time, people on a bus all want the same thing -- to get to work or home on time, with minimal effort and no personal interactions. There seems to be a tacit understanding between 99 per cent of the riding population: don't bother me, I won't bother you, and we'll all get through this together. But there's always the one per cent who break the covenant. They talk like they're on stage and emoting so the people in the top balcony can hear (I heard a guy giving a detailed description of his former drug problem. It was actually kind of interesting.) They put their bag or backpack on the seat next to them on a crowded bus. (By the way, why are bus seats less comfortable than one of those metal chairs at McDonald's? Nobody's ass is as small as they make those form fitting seats.) They play their iPod so loud you can hear it from several rows away.

A lot of shady characters take the bus, and on one occasion recently, a fetid one, too. I was on the LRT a while back with a hobo who looked like Rasputin and smelled like a bucket of urine. Honest, he stunk so bad I was trying to subtly cover my nose. Thank God he got off at university station, leading me to postulate that he might have been a professor.

Still, passengers and route screw ups aside, ETS is working pretty well for me. The cost is discouraging (going up to $2.75 a trip next month, an unconscionable 10 per cent increase) but overall it seems to be working.

Now if I could just get rid of all the other passengers, things would be perfect.

> WE'VE BEEN DOING MUSIC TOGETHER FOR THE LAST 15 YEARS, SO DOING SOMETHING THAT KEEPS US INTERESTED... **IS AT THE FOREFRONT OF OUR MINDS RIGHT NOW.**

MUSIC · TWIN SINGERS · BY TRENT WILKIE | 567 words

Of Oil Cities And Unicorns Named Tegan

CALGARY ROCKER-CHICK PHENOM TEGAN QUIN WEIGHS IN ON EDMONTON, SAINTHOOD AND A FEW MORE OF HER FAVOURITE THINGS

TEGAN AND SARA
Northern Alberta Jubilee Auditorium (11455-87 Ave).
Mon. Jan. 11, 7:30 p.m. and Tues. Jan. 12, 7:30 p.m.
Tickets: $36.63–$44.15, available through Ticketmaster (451-8000/ticketmaster.ca).

Seeing Double | Tegan and Sara bring it to Edmonton next week. PHOTO SUPPLIED

Sainthood is the sixth album for the rocking twin Quin sisters from Calgary. Slowly but surely, they are surpassing the likes of George Fox and Paul Brandt as Cow Town's most popular musicians. So what, so they opened for Neil Young and the Pretenders, it isn't country (bull whip sound, horse whinny)! In reality, Tegan and Sara are becoming an international draw. But even though they've been all over the world playing to a plethora of people, according to Tegan, their roots are still clear.

"The way I usually describe the difference between Calgary and Edmonton is that Calgary is much more of an oil city," Tegan says. "There is more money and people are bit fancier and it's gotten more of a gimmick. Edmonton is more of a blue collar city. It kind of reminds me of Austin, Texas in a way because it has a really cool art scene right now. I think the rivalry between the two cities comes from being the only western province with two very big cities close by. Also Edmonton used to be good at hockey and now they are not, so ..."

After laughing for two solid minutes, I asked if there were any surprises with their new album. Do they have to recreate themselves with each release? Does it get easier?

"It's nice to still be relevant," says Tegan. "Our objective over the past while is to create good records and to grow. We've been doing music together for about 15 years so doing something that keeps us interested for the next year and a half is what is at the forefront of our minds right now. People are saying some interesting things about *Sainthood* though, I mean, it is a Tegan and Sara record but people are saying it's too poppy or it's more of a live album but, I think this record fits in with *So Jealous* or *The Con* just nicely."

Now for something the super fans might not know and the new ones might want to:

SEE Magazine: What book do you wish you wrote?

Tegan: Anything by John Irving. He is my favorite writer. *Until I Find You* is my favourite ... or *A Widow For One Year*. I have this fascination with male writers in their forties, especially those who write intense female characters.

SEE: Who would play you in the movie of your life if you were a man?

Tegan: I love that question. I love it because I want to be a boy. I would say James Franco. Not that we look anything alike ... although we kinda do. Or the drummer from the Kooks ... he would be James's understudy.

SEE: If you were forced to compete in the winter Olympics what would be your sport?

Tegan: I will just say drinking but it's inappropriate. Skiing is much too obvious. Snowboarding, I do a lot of Wii snowboarding here in my house ... I loved figure skating growing up though ... I think I'll pick being a hockey player on Team Canada.

SEE: Would you rather own a unicorn, pegasus or a dragon?

Tegan: Unicorn of course.

SEE: And what would you name it?

Tegan: I would name it Tegan. It would be cool if we had the same name.

Distorted Maps | After releasing a whack of material since 2008, Mudhoney's on the road again and even though it's taken more than 20 years, this time their map includes Edmonton. PHOTO SUPPLIED

HOT TICKETS · THIS WEEK'S MUST-SEE SHOWS

Mudhoney
Starlite Room | Jan. 8

Anticipation for one of the few remaining grunge forces has stopped short in a strange, and puzzling way. Fans of Seattle's Mudhoney should be over the top knowing the band will be making its first-ever appearance in Edmonton this week. The band, along with its longtime label Sub Pop, both celebrated their 20th anniversaries in 2008. But it leaves one to wonder, just how hard does one have to try to avoid a full-size city for more than two decades? Well, even if it has taken 22 years to find Edmonton, Mudhoney will make it out. Joining them is Slates, Michael Rault and Ex-Boyfriends.

Blue Rodeo
Jubilee Auditorium | Jan. 7 & 8

Passing through town early in the year has become something of a tradition for Canadian country troubadours Blue Rodeo. Playing their own brand of bluesy folk-rock anywhere and everywhere from coast-to-coast has earned the band much love and accomplishment, enough that they can routinely pull-off two-nighters as they are here this week. With tons of side projects and collaborations, Blue Rodeo is supporting its 12th full-length studio release *The Things We Left Behind* as well as Raise-A-Reader, a family literacy program where proceeds from the band's current tour will be donated.

Sugar Sammy
Winspear Centre | Jan. 12

Any show with a disclaimer advising only mature audiences should attend usually puts it a notch or two up on my list. Comedian Sugar Sammy's reputation is expanding rapidly and for more than his bracing jokes. Known for a fresh perspective on almost every corner of our global community, Sugar Sammy is winning over hearts and minds around the world. He's taken his own brand of comedy from the stage, recently hosting the national *Just For Laughs* tour, to television with his own HBO special, he'll be sharing his insights with Edmonton fans this week. Andrew Grose and Bill Cowen will open the show.

MUSIC • AN HORSE • BY KATHLEEN BELL | 695 words

Horse Sense: On Confidence and Criticism

SELF-DEPRECATING TO THE MAX, AN HORSE SINGER TALKS LYRICS, E-MAILS AND HER LOVE FOR TEGAN AND SARA

AN HORSE
With Tegan and Sara
Jan. 11 & 12, 2010, At the Jubilee Auditorium, 7:30 p.m.
Tickets: $25 to $2.50 plus service fees, Ticketmaster

"We're really appreciative that people would want to listen," says Kate Cooper, lead singer and guitarist for two-man group An Horse. "Sometimes it blows my mind. I'm like, really? You care about this? 'Cause this is kinda shit." Okay, if Canadian musicians are known for being modest and self-deprecating, this Australian has just out-humbled us. What's beyond unpretentious? Because that's where An Horse lives.

Cooper is so self-effacing, in fact, that most of her answers start with an 'I don't know' and end in an 'I guess.' But somewhere in the middle there's confidence – the confidence I imagine she'd need to stand up in front of an audience, with only her bandmate Damon Cox at her side, to produce a thousand pounds of sound about the most vulnerable of feelings: hope, fear and love.

If you believe Cooper, considering her tendency to give herself the brush off, their debut LP, *Rearrange Beds*, came together rather haphazardly. "Really, it started after we signed a record contract and they were like, 'you should really put out a record,' " she says dryly. "We'd written an EP and it was just me and Damon mucking around. We had no intentions to really do much more than that – have some fun. And then we got signed. Half the songs were kicking around before An Horse even began and then half of them were kind of finished after stuff started happening, so I don't know. Everyone says there's a theme and blah, blah, blah. I'm like, 'yeah, there's an obvious theme' but it wasn't anything intentional."

Blame it on good luck or solid talent, but that mucking around caught the attention of indie-rock super sisters Tegan and Sara Quin. Since they met at a Brisbane record store – where Cox and Cooper worked and where Tegan and Sara happened to play one of those in-store dealios – the Quin twins have been very supportive of An Horse, bringing them on both American and Canadian tours.

"I feel nervous and I feel sometimes that I let them down," Cooper says of their close relationship with the sisters. "They're so amazing. Yes, they've been supportive, but I don't feel nearly as good as I should be for all the support they've given us."

Okay, that's enough. If I let her do all the talking you might get the wrong impression. An Horse aren't shit and they are worthy of touring with Canada's favourite twins. Like their benefactors, they make catchy rock tunes that bleed emotion, but sparkle with strength. Their single "Camp Out" is immediately endearing, with its sympathetic chorus of "it's okay to fall down, it's okay to crumble."

"Sometimes I cringe at those lyrics," she sighs. "Sometimes I cringe at all the lyrics on the record. But I feel like it was in an e-mail back and forth – I think I rip off a lot of my friends when they write to me – and my friend was discussing something in particular and was like, 'it's okay to fall down and fall apart. It's all right.'"

"I actually, probably believe that it's not okay to fall down," she continues. "I think it was me trying to tell myself it's okay but every time I feel like I'm becoming a bit of a mess I still feel like it's not okay, but you know, who knows?"

Horsing Around | Aussie band An Horse comes to town with Tegan & Sara. PHOTO SUPPLIED

So I can't keep her away from self-criticism for long. But perhaps that's what makes them so charming: they represent that churning mix of self-doubt and self-reliance that runs through every one of us whenever we take on a challenge, or risk ourselves for art or work or sport or love. That doubt can be paralysing, but if you can keep moving, you may end up on tour with Tegan and Sara. And that's not shitty at all.

AROUND TOWN • CALGARY | 680 words

Great Art, And The Art Of Acting Like Dickwads

WILDLIFE FISH GREWKOWSKEY

A FORMER EDMONTONIAN IS IN NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC, AND THE OILERS ACT LIKE A BUNCH OF SPOILED BABIES

A pleasant surprise jumped out the other day, opening the new *National Geographic* to discover a series of illustrations by one-time Edmontonian Jillian Tamaki, who studied at ACAD down in Calgary. The disturbing article, about a ruthless animal trafficker who's unfortunately now getting into moving endangered tigers, has Tamaki's wondrous artwork throughout, greyscale washes based in a Chinese watercolour technique. It's really gorgeous.

On her blog at jilliantamaki.com she describes the process working with *NG*'s art director. "This wash technique is a very different one from my typical method ... more of a one-shot deal with very minimal digital manipulation. Some of the animals were done a dozen times before I got a few that worked. I would send the AD several final versions to choose from.

"It was an exercise in a new way of thinking and a good lesson for me as I try to streamline my illustration work. I have discovered through teaching that the most important thing you develop in school is not technique but process: a way of working that allows you to operate within the confines of art direction but still leaves you psychologically free to create work that is fresh and stimulating."

Tamaki also did some breathtaking sea turtle illustrations for a David Sedaris story in *The New Yorker* lately, check out her site.

Speaking of Calgary (were we speaking of Calgary?) Dojo Workhorse was up Monday, bringing a pillowy-soft indie band to the Black Dog band pen. The difference between them and The Dudes – made up of the same humans plus a few bonus munchkins – is kinda staggering, and at one point singer Dan Vacon was clutching his hands and singing about "making love." (And not in an about-to-get-backseat-laid Bad Company way.)

Feeling the empathy were dozens in the audience with relationship troubles, though that's not to say a metal concert is necessarily a place of more interpersonal stability. Needless to say, though, this band is about feelings and as such creeped me out more than a little bit.

And speaking of "speaking of Calgary," how about our awesome NHL hockey team, who with no prior agreement refused to pay the total of their restaurant bill on New Year's Eve in Kensington's Osteria de Medici? What a bunch of fucking bitch shitheads, quibbling over a couple thousand bucks which any of them make in a matter of minutes, even seconds, on the ice. Divided up between everyone there, the bill came to less than $400 each, but the Oilers decided they would make up completely "magic" rules about how restaurants and bars work, and only be charged by the bottle for their shooters. I mean, if they sat there and mixed their own gaytard drinks at the table, maybe? The spin doctoring was quick, and counter-arguments ranged from "but it was a Calgary business, so who cares" to the typically clever, "OILERS!" position. But they were whiners about it, claiming they left a huge tip. Listen to me, spunkoloids – if you don't even pay the total, there's no tip. They've since financially settled in this reasonable storm of bad PR, and the *Herald* says "all is forgiven," but that hardly speaks for any of us tired of the sloppy puckhandling of the Oilers where you and I are the pucks.

Understand this clearly: this is nothing less than total, entitled-class chauvinism we're talking about, guys and their corporate babysitters who make at the very least upper-end hundreds of thousands of dollars a year (sometimes ridiculously more), doing nothing less than stealing directly from waiters, cooks and dishwashers. Fuck, fuck, fuck this team. The parallel to the arena debate is obvious, as the organization is doing everything it can to bully us into paying for their for-profit sports facility.

When you twats do inevitably threaten to leave Edmonton if we won't foot the bill for the D. Staples Centre, please let the door hit your thieving asses on the way out.

MUSIC · LATE NIGHT BEETHOVEN · BY JERRY OZIPKO | 591 words

"New" Music by Beethoven Lights Up Late Night

FOR NIGHT OWL MUSIC LOVERS, THE EDMONTON SYMPHONY HAS JUST THE CONCERT SERIES FOR YOU

LATE NIGHT WITH BILL EDDINS
Winspear Centre, Jan. 8, 9:30 p.m.

If there is anybody out there whose music appreciation nighttime doesn't start before 9 p.m., then the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra has just the thing. Beginning this Friday, the orchestra will debut a new concert series called "Late Night with Bill Eddins." Performances will start at 9:30 p.m. and will run approximately an hour and 15 minutes without intermission.

ESO conductor and music director Bill Eddins provided some background for the rationale behind the series. "I think we're reaching for a different crowd – a crowd that might not come out so early in the evening. There are some people who believe that 8 p.m. is way too early."

The idea is also to bring the audience into informal discussions about their impressions of the music with conductor Eddins from the stage. Live jazz and cocktails following the performance will round out the night.

This Friday's concert will consist of three early works by Ludwig van Beethoven – as well as the Canadian première of a work long thought to be lost since 1840. Sketches of the movement were found among Beethoven's papers in 1964 and although a full score of the work has never been found, there is concrete evidence that it had been performed as early as 1795.

When informed that she would be performing the work for the first time in Canada, ESO oboist Lidia Khaner expressed some reservation. "I'm always completely skeptical when it comes to completely new pieces rediscovered, because I start to ask myself, 'Is it REALLY Beethoven?' " In this case, Khaner may have a bit of a point. The work, originally composed while Beethoven was still a student of Joseph Haydn, is a reconstruction (with orchestration) made by two Dutch Beethoven specialists working from incomplete sketches of the movement. Khaner listened to a European recording of the work and found that the piece grew on her over time. "It's a very interesting piece and if it is early Beethoven I don't think it is one of the best pieces of his; still, it has beautiful phrases."

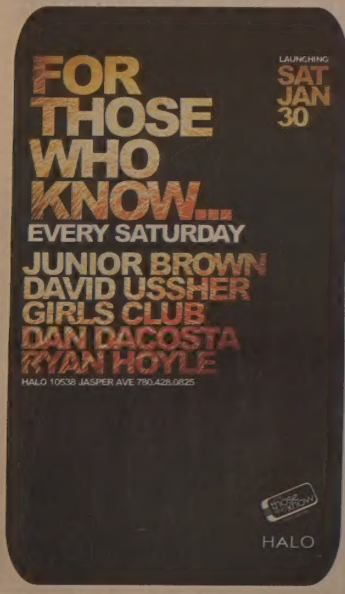
With respect to the programming of the newly-discovered Beethoven work, Eddins feels blessed "in having the most musically knowledgeable artistic administrator in the business – and that's Rob McAlear, who knows almost every single piece of music there is." He found out about the work through his research and informed Eddins about its existence.

So if your idea of late night music doesn't involve the latest offerings from the Starlite Room or the Haven Social Club, "new" Beethoven might just be your ticket.

Late Night Host | ESO conductor Bill Eddins hosts symphony for night owls. PHOTO SUPPLIED

SEEN IT LIVE · GREAT GIGS YOU MISSED LAST WEEK

Workhorse and Prosper | Sitting down with her cello behind singer Dan Vacon, Clea Foofat provides an extra touch of lovely to this sensitive Calgary band known as the Dojo Workhorse, an offshoot of The Dudes. The ensemble played the Black Dog Monday night. PHOTO BY FISH GROWKOWSKY



MUSIC · DOVE · BY PIOTR GRELLA-MOZIEKO | 546 words

Ghandi To My Ears

LOCAL COMPOSER LINDA PURVES DRAWS INSPIRATION FROM THE INDIAN THINKER – AND FROM HER WHITE DOVE

"The only thing we were told when the bird was given to us by the owners who were moving to Ontario," Linda Purves points out to the gorgeous white pigeon on her shoulder, "was that the boy's name was Chester." She pets Chester and then adds: "Almost immediately thereafter what the boy did was he laid eggs! Some boy, eh?!," Purves laughs while the dove seems to have understood the story, turning her head sideways and looking approvingly at her friend.

"So, what did you do, apart from getting upset?" I ask.

"Upset? No way!," Purves vigorously protests. "No place for any upset with this beautiful creature! We accepted the boy was in fact a girl, did everything we could to make her life easier – and all ended well, as it should. In the process, we've learnt a lot about raising pigeons!"

The anecdote may well serve as a spot-on metaphor for what Purves, a McGill graduate best known for her excellent piano music, has recently decided to do, or, rather, compose.

Bombarded constantly with bad news, many of us have failed to notice that 2009 marked the 60th anniversary of Pablo Picasso's famously introducing the white dove as a symbol of peace. And so in 2009, Purves began working on a piece intended to project calm and reconciliation.

"I've been reading Gandhi and realized I had to deal with my emotions and express my sentiments inspired by his concept of non-violent activism. Perhaps today, more than ever, we need to send strong, positive messages? As a composer, I thought I could do it best in a vocal piece, a choral piece to be exact. There's something special, powerful and reassuring in a group of people singing together - a microcosm of the positive force which drives most of us, I believe, to do good."

I admit freely I am not aware of too many – if any at all – choral pieces set to Gandhi's texts. Even the libretto for the well-known opera by Philip Glass, "Satyagraha," a tribute to Gandhi based on his biography, mostly uses the ancient sacred Hindu text, the Bhagavad Gita.

"Gandhi's writings were my inspiration; they gave me the first impulse to start thinking about the piece and its philosophical perspective," Purves explains, "but I felt the text needed to be more direct and rooted in a variety of widely spread traditions. Hence my choice of multiple writings coming from diverse cultures. The piece makes use of passages from the Bible, the Qur'an, and the traditional Buddhist sayings. I assembled intentionally a collection of quotations whose content and meaning were so similar you could easily confuse their sources. Obviously, I did it because I wanted to show how similar we are despite our respective cultural and religious backgrounds, and how much we crave peace and happiness. Music can communicate so well – we forget about that all too often!"

When will the piece be ready?

"As you can see, Chester helps me compose, so I think I'll be done soon," Purves chuckles. With a number of several other projects on the go, she and Chester are one busy team.

Meet Chester | Composer Linda Purves with her fine feathered friend. PHOTO SUPPLIED

CD REVIEWS

VARIOUS ARTISTS
Daptone Gold
(Universal)
★★★★½

"The world capital of soul has moved around a lot in the last 50 years or so," writes Douglas Wolk in the liner notes for *Daptone Gold*. "For the better part of the past decade, soul's central headquarters has been in Brooklyn." That's largely due to the presence of Daptone Records, a small, tight-knit label dedicated to producing soul records that sound as if they were plucked straight from the heyday of Stax or Motown. *Daptone Gold* is the label's first compilation, and it's a stunner. These 23 tracks will appeal to newcomers and longtime converts alike. Some of Daptone's biggest hits are present (like Sharon Jones and the Dap-Kings's "Tell Me"), as well as some vinyl-only rarities and even a batch of unreleased songs. Nearly every track here sizzles, but put on Lee Fields's mammoth ballad "Could Have Been," or Cynthia Langston's aching "I Need You To Hold My Hand," and watch every heart in a 10-mile radius melt and break all at once
MICHAEL HINGSTON

LYMBYC SYSTYM
Shutter Release
(Ninja Tune)
★★★½

You would expect a modern instrumental band to rely heavily on synth and drum loops. But, the opposite is true for Lymbyc Systym. They use a great mixture of production and organic sounds in harmony to create very thoughtful music. *Shutter Release* is one of those albums you throw on to fall to sleep to, or to clean the shit out of your house. Haunting and daunting, horns and harmonies, it's a little bit of rock 'n' roll, a little bit of a soundtrack to your life. "Bedroom Anthem" has both the subtly of sleep and passion of some hot "doing it" action. The single "Ghost Clock" works a layered texture that tries hard, but not overly. Lyric-less, *Shutter Release* is a soundscape that makes you take notice but doesn't demand it. At times, it can be a bit too noise driven, but in all, Arizona brothers Jared and Michael Bell have created an album that isn't too art house, but still resonates the "deeper meaning" mentality. It would be interesting to see how this album translates live, but I bet there would be a lot of ass shaking and shoe gazing
TRENT WILKIE

SUNDAR VISWANATHAN
What A Dream I Had ...
(InSound Records)
★★★½

This is the perfect CD for a chatty dinner party. Candle-lit table, great food, engaging conversation and good music. In short, it needs just a little help. Distracted or tense, *What a Dream I Had ...* will relax you with Sundar's smooth vocals, soothing saxophone and flute instrumentals, beautiful piano arrangements. And aside from a couple tracks I wish hadn't made the final cut, it's a great choice of songs. The fact Sundar plays both the sax and the flute along with all the vocals is very impressive. Just don't look too closely: you'll dull the shine a smidge. The vocals don't always have the range required to pull off every moment and they often lack depth and a connection with the lyrics. But the final song, "For Emily, Wherever I May Find Her," gives you a glimpse of another side of what Sundar can do. He is moving in the right direction.
STACEY LAWRENCE

CHRIS PAGE
A Date With A Smoke Machine
(Indp Records)
★★★★★

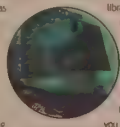
Not only will the sexy, tormented voice of Chris Page make you melt, but that guitar work of his is pure greatness. *A Date with a Smoke Machine* is haunting. The songs cling to you as the memories that made them must cling to Page. And there isn't a single letdown in the bunch. It's poetic and moving and constantly surprising you with lyrics like, "I creep into your sleep with panic stricken song." Page even provides the back story for each song, revealing that even his point of view is poetic. He borrowed a friend's guitar while on tour and used it to write the introduction to a song. He admits, "I'm not sure if taking songs out of someone's guitar is fair game." All's fair in love Chris, and I love this CD. It's a new staple for road trips and lazy Sundays.
STACEY LAWRENCE

MUDVAYNE
Self-titled
(Epic)
★★☆☆☆

It's understandable that some people are angry. Heck, I've been known to use blue words on the odd occasion. But nu-metal is something that eludes me. I may catch some heat for this, but, metal has gone the way of new country, it all sounds the same. Yes, I'm generalizing. But it's hard not to when I've got three CDs in front of me and they all sound the same. Case in point, Mudvayne. Their newest, self-titled album is summed up in the single "Scream With Me." Quiet whispery voice asking you about how depressed you are, then here it comes, a screamy chorus. The chorus suggests you stand in the closet, or in the garden, and scream with them because your mind is like a fire. Next is the less quiet, but more quiet than the chorus bit that suggests you may be really, really depressed. Then barn, they want you yelling in the garden or the closet again. Yes, this encapsulates frustration, I get it. But shouldn't you be more frustrated with all this music sounding the same? I mean, if you want to spend money, why don't you just find your favourite album and buy it over and over again? "Heard It All Before" is another song that sounds like six or seven other stereotypical metal bands. Not only has Mudvayne "Heard It All Before," but they're singing about it again.
TRENT WILKIE

LISTEN · BY FISH GRIWKOWSKY

TORO Y MOI
CAUSERS OF THIS



Like the by-hand adjustment of a century-old stereoscope's images, the melted soul of Toro Y Moi's Causers of This can take a while to sharpen into something with recognizable depth or dimension. But as the beautiful synth pulses alternately from speaker to speaker, there's a sense of a truly three-dimensional work being layered, and this despite having much of anything you'd honestly call a dancehall beat. More glowing rhythms of night creatures creating accidental harmonies, a secret thing stumbled upon. Fully organic and robotic at the same time. Bionic indie? Welcome to the new decade, Jose, where the realm is mapped quietly and with perfect calculator skills. Reminds me of Tokyo clubs I ran through till dawn with names like Blue and Milk a life ago: rooms sometimes completely dark, save for the glow of Pikachu keychains. It all sounds kind of far off.
Seemingly aimless flaneur Chad Bundick sings childishly at times over his sparse synths, reminiscent of Discovery's gaiety and a much less coke-fuelled MGMT. Like so much of this light-traipsing indie, when the beats do arrive, like on a snappy little collage called Lissoms, they sound like they're heard through the wall of the apartment next door, clearly located somewhere in Miami.
What sets this apart from most of the sleepy noise is its dizziness — the title and final track almost nauseating as the L-R spins around, which is exactly how the album opens. The same trick with the knobs is applied to volume, so sounds come and go, too, following quantum physics rules. Though Bundick's from South Carolina, the only thing you could really guess about him is that he's probably from a ruined world once known as Earth. In short: take the time to mine this album's rewards.
★★★★½

JAMES BROWN
THE SINGLES, VOL. EIGHT: 1972-1973

Continuing Hip-O Select's killer James Brown library, this 40-song collection has more than a few brilliant songs, my favourite being "You Can Have Watergate Just Gimme Some Bucks and I'll Be Straight," a song so of it's time the world almost turns Kodachrome yellow around you. "Public Enemy #1" is a moving spoken word about heroin, while "Watermelon Man" is blindingly funky (an adjective which should never be used by white women to describe knick-knacks in a mall.)
Overall, it's a down-and-out Brown we find here, enough to make you never want to hear "I Feel Good" again, if you weren't already there
★★★★★

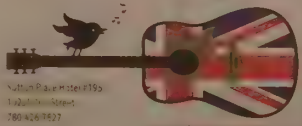
MOTÖRHEAD
HOLY DIVER (1983)

In my wing of the prison, D stands for death, demons, destruction and, of course, Dio. When complete strangers stop me on the street and ask me why I have so little time for Motley Crue, I usually tell them it's because Dio exists. This album is at the fucking core of that, sending warning forward in time we must ski heed. For example, guitars played with any more complexity than on the plodding title track are wankmeat, fundamental metal is gothic and operatic and gypsies are best screamed at with a talisman clutched in hand. What? It makes them dance! Anyway, wake your parents/kids up with this tomorrow, and if they complain just give them the finger from us true believers!
★★★★★

THE ROSE AND CROWN
PUB

Live Music

A FISTFUL OF BLUES
Friday, January 8th &
Saturday, January 9th



Northern Pub Hunter #195
10234 - 106 Street
780.426.7627

www.edmontonpubs.com

THURSDAY

Live Music

BLUE RODEO *JUBILEE AUDITORIUM, 11455-87 AVE* With Cuff the Duke. Tickets www.ticketmaster.ca
PETER BELEC *RIC'S GRILL (ST ALBERT) THE BRUIN CENTRE, 24 PERRON ST, ST ALBERT* 7 p.m.

DJs/Club Nights

DJ GUNDAM *BLACK DOG FREEHOUSE (TOP LEVEL) 10425 WHYTE AVE*
EAZY DUZ IT THURSDAYS *THE COMMON, 10124-124 ST* With DJ Shortee and Sonny Grimezz
GONG SHOW BINGO *FILTHY MCNASTY'S, 10511A WHYTE AVE*
HIGHER LEVEL THURSDAYS *LEVEL 2 LOUNGE, 11607 JASPER AVE*
NOTORIOUS THURSDAYS DANCEHALL *STOLLI'S, #201 10368 WHYTE AVE* With DJ Footnotes and ConScience
RUMP SHAKIN THURSDAYS *WUNDERBAR HOFBRAUHAUS, 8120-101 ST* With DJ Thermos
SIN THURSDAYS *LUCKY 13, 10551-82 AVE* With DJ Mike Tomas
SURELY TEMPLE THURSDAYS *TEMPLE, 10030-102 ST* Doors at 9 p.m.
THIRSTY THURSDAYS *FLUID LOUNGE, 10105-109 ST* 4 p.m.
THROWBACK THURSDAYS *PROHIBITION, 11026 JASPER AVE* With DJ Service
THURSDAYS FO SHO *HALO, 10538 JASPER AVE* With All Out DJ's DJ Degree and Junior Brown
TIGHT JAMS THURSDAYS *BLACK DOG FREEHOUSE (MAIN LEVEL), 10425 WHYTE AVE* With Mike B. and Rinsnake
TOPWISE SOUNDSYSTEM *BLACK DOG FREEHOUSE (LOWER LEVEL) 10425 WHYTE AVE*
URBAN SUBSTANCE THURSDAYS *GINGUR SKY LOUNGE 5505-118 AVE*

FRIDAY

Live Music

BLUE RODEO *JUBILEE AUDITORIUM, 11455-87 AVE* With Cuff the Duke. Tickets www.ticketmaster.ca
CARRIE HRYNIW *CARROT COMMUNITY ARTS COFFEE HOUSE, 9351-118 AVE* 7:30 p.m.
GRANT MACEWAN UNIVERSITY'S SHOWCASE BAND *JOHN L. HAAR THEATRE, 10045-156 ST, MACEWAN CENTRE FOR THE ARTS* Tickets www.tixonthesquare.ca
[illegible]
HEADWIND *JEKYLL & HYDE PUB, 10209-100 AVE* 9 p.m.
IAN TYSON *HORIZON STAGE 1001 CALAHOO ROAD, SPRUCE* [illegible]
[illegible]
Doors at 8:30 p.m.
MUDHONEY *STARLITE ROOM, 10030-102 ST* With Slates, and Michael Rault. 8 p.m.
ONE DAY LATE *PAWN SHOP 2ND FL, 10551-82 AVE* With SeZenSided
RED HOUSE *WREKS, 9303-50 ST* 8 p.m.
SHORT OF ABLE *BRIXX BAR & GRILL, 10030-102 ST* With Zero Something, and guests. 9 p.m.
SHOWCASE BAND CONCERT *JOHN L. HAAR THEATRE, 10045-156 ST, MACEWAN CENTRE FOR THE ARTS* Presented by Presented by the Grant MacEwan University students. 7:30 p.m. Tickets www.tixonthesquare.ca
TANYA PROCHAZKA & STEPHANE LEMELIN *MUTTART HALL, ALBERTA COLLEGE, 10050 MACDONALD DR* Live cello and piano music. 7:30 p.m. Tickets www.tixonthesquare.ca
TENEIA SANDERS *FRESH START BAKERY & BISTRO, 484 RIVERBEND SQUARE*

DJs/Club Nights

4 PLAY FRIDAYS *ENCORE CLUB, #116, 957-FIR ST* With DJ Imho Austin.
BEER FEST FRIDAYS *LUCKY 13, 10551-82 AVE*
CONNECTED FRIDAYS *THE BANK ULTRA LOUNGE, 10765 JASPER AVE* Local house and international guest DJ's
DJ ALEXX BROWN AND EDDIE TOONFLASH *PLAY NIGHT CLUB, 10220-103 ST*
DJ ARROW CHASER *BUDDY'S PUB, 11725B JASPER AVE* 8 p.m.
DJ CHRISTIAN *GAS PUMP NIGHTCLUB & BAR, 10166-114 ST* With DJ Travis
DJ DONOVAN *NEWCASTLE PUB AND GRILL, 6108-90 AVE*
DJ PAPI AND DJ LATIN SENSATION *AZUCAR PICANTE, 4302-50 ST*
DJ SERVICE *PROHIBITION, 11026 JASPER AVE* With DJ Shortee
DJ SEXXXY *BOOTS BAR, 10242-106 ST*
DJ SHAWNIBIS *ON THE ROCKS, 11740 JASPER AVE*
THE DEEPER SIDE *THE COMMON, 10124-124 ST.* With DJ's Josh Ep vs Battery, Pete Flex, Travis Mateeson, LP, and Mickey Sasso. 9 p.m.
DESTROY ROCK & ROLL *HALO, 10538 JASPER AVE*
EZZIE'S FREAKIN FRENZY FRIDAYS *ESMERALDA'S, 11830 KINGSWAY AVE*
FLOSSIN' FRIDAYS *GINGUR SKY LOUNGE, 5505-118 AVE* With Bomb Squad, and DJ Solja.
FLUID FRIDAYS *FLUID LOUNGE, 10105-109 ST* With DJ Tony Sanchez. 4 p.m.
FORBIDDEN FRIDAYS *EMPIRE BALLROOM (WEM)*
FREE AND FRESH FRIDAYS *BLACK DOG FREEHOUSE (TOP LEVEL), 10425 WHYTE AVE* With Marc It Fresh & Free the DJ
FRIDAY NIGHT FRENZY *DIRTY PRETTY, 8111-105 ST.* With DJ Ty Collins.
HYPNOTIQ FRIDAYS *LEVEL 2 LOUNGE, 11607 JASPER AVE*
I LOVE '80S DANCEPARTY *NEW CITY, 10081 JASPER AVE.* 9 p.m.
INTERNATIONAL FRIDAYS *PULSE8 NIGHTCLUB, 10544-82 AVE* 9 p.m.
LADIES NIGHT *FILTHY MCNASTY'S, 10511A WHYTE AVE*
MIND FUNK FRIDAYS *TWILIGHT AFTERHOURS, 10018-105 ST* Doors at 2 a.m.
MOVIN' ON UP FRIDAYS *RED STAR, 10538 JASPER AVE.* With DJ Gatto and DJ Mega Watt.son
PEOPLE'S DJ *STOLLI'S, #201 10368 WHYTE AVE*
PLATINUM VIP FRIDAYS *CHROME LOUNGE 104 550 CLAREVIEW RD*
SEXY FRIDAY *180 DEGREES, 10730-107 AVE*
SOLICE FRIDAYS *ROUGE LOUNGE, 10111-117 ST*
UNDERGROUND SOUND *ATTIC BAR & LOUNGE, 10407 WHYTE AVE*

SATURDAY

Live Music

COAST TO COAST PUB AND GRILL *552 CALGARY TR.* Doors at 9 p.m.
COLD DRIVEN *STARLITE ROOM, 10030-102 ST.* With Light and Jezibelle. 9 p.m.
CYGNETS *BRIXX BAR & GRILL, 10030-102 ST* With The Shagbots, and guests. 9 p.m.
FAMILY JAM *THE ARTERY, 9535 JASPER AVE* 6 p.m. Info 441-6966.
GARRETT CRAIGS AND WHISKEY FACE *LIKWID LOUNGE, 10081 JASPER AVE* With Eamon McGrath, and Woodyn You Like To. 4 p.m.
HAIR OF THE DOG *BLACK DOG FREEHOUSE (MAIN LEVEL), 10425 WHYTE AVE* Live acoustic. 4 p.m.
IAN TYSON *HORIZON STAGE, 1001 CALAHOO ROAD, SPRUCE GROVE* 7:30 p.m. Tickets www.ticketmaster.ca
THE YELLS *BRIXX BAR & GRILL, 10030-102 ST* With guests. 9 p.m.

DJs/Club Nights

BLACK POLISHED CHROME *NEW CITY 10081 JASPER AVE* With DJ Dervish, Anonymouse, and Blue Jay
DANCE HALL REGGAE NIGHT *180 DEGREES, 10730-107 AVE* With Generation IIVEXX. Doors at 10 p.m. Info [illegible]
DJ EARTH SHIVER 'N' QUAKE *BUDDY'S PUB, 11725B JASPER AVE* 8 p.m.
DJ SEXXXY *BOOTS BAR, 10242-106 ST*
DJ SHERI *NEWCASTLE PUB AND GRILL, 6108-90 AVE*
[illegible]
Junior Brown, Luke Morrison, Nestor Delano, and Ari Rhodes.
GONE GOLD *FLUID LOUNGE, 10105-109 ST* With Harmen B [illegible]
LADIES NIGHT *FILTHY MCNASTY'S, 10511A WHYTE AVE*
LADIES NIGHT *THE BANK ULTRA LOUNGE, 10765 JASPER AVE* With DJ Russell James, and DJ FFWD.
LADY LUCK SATURDAYS *LUCKY 13, 10551-82 AVE*
THE MENACE SESSIONS *BLACK DOG FREEHOUSE (MAIN LEVEL), 10425 WHYTE AVE*
MOBILIZE *STARLITE ROOM, 10030-102 ST* With Daphutur. 9 p.m.
OH SNAP! *TEMPLE, 10030-102 ST* With Jegree, Cobra Commander, Battery, and guests. 9 p.m.
SOUND IT UP! *BLACK DOG FREEHOUSE (TOP LEVEL), 10425 WHYTE AVE* With DJ Sonny Grimezz
STOLLI'S SATURDAYS *STOLLI'S, #201, 10368 WHYTE AVE* With Peoples DJ
SUGGESTIVE SATURDAYS *PLANET INDIGO, 11607 JASPER AVE* 9 p.m.
UNDERGROUND SOUND *ATTIC BAR & LOUNGE, 10407 WHYTE AVE*
WARRIOR MUSIC *PROHIBITION, 11026 JASPER AVE* 9:30 p.m.

SUNDAY

Live Music

CELTIC MUSIC SESSION *DEVANEY'S IRISH PUB, 9013-88 AVE* Hosted by Keri Lynn Zwicker. Doors at 4 p.m.
IAN TYSON *HORIZON STAGE, 1001 CALAHOO ROAD, SPRUCE GROVE* 2 p.m. Tickets www.ticketmaster.ca
JAZZ ON THE SIDE SUNDAYS *BLUE PEAR, 10643-123 ST*
KING MUSKAFA *BLUES ON WHYTE, 10329 WHYTE AVE*
LIGHT TRAVELS *BRIXX BAR & GRILL, 10030-102 ST* With Chasing Jones, and Hector Fector. 9 p.m.
STUART AND WINONA DAVIS MEMORIAL ORGAN RECITAL *WINSPEAR CENTRE, 9720-102 AVE* Featuring David Higgs. 3 p.m.

DJs/Club Nights

GET DOWN SUNDAYS *NEW CITY, 10081 JASPER AVE.* With Neighbourhood Rats
SHOCKER SUNDAYS *ON THE ROCKS, 11740 JASPER AVE* 9 p.m.
SOUL SUNDAYS *BLACK DOG FREEHOUSE (MAIN LEVEL), 10425 WHYTE AVE* With DJ Zyppy
WUNDERBAR SUNDAYS *WUNDERBAR HOFBRAUHAUS, 8120-101 ST* With DJ Gallatea and XS

MONDAY

Live Music

[illegible]
10030-102 ST With Amy Thiessen, Sidney York, and Kaley Bird. 9 p.m.
THE PINK FLOYD EXPERIENCE *WINSPEAR CENTRE, 9720-102 AVE* Tickets www.winspearcentre.com
TEGAN & SARA *JUBILEE AUDITORIUM, 11455-87 AVE.* With An Horse. Tickets www.ticketmaster.ca
[illegible]
AVE With Johnny Neck and his Job.

DJs/Club Nights

BLUE JAY'S MESSY NEST *BLACK DOG FREEHOUSE (MAIN LEVEL), 10425 WHYTE AVE* With DJ Blue Jay
DJ DUST 'N TIME *BUDDY'S PUB, 11725B JASPER AVE* 9 p.m.
INDUSTRIAL MONDAYS *LUCKY 13, 10551-82 AVE* With DJ [illegible]
[illegible]

TUESDAY

Live Music

CELTIC JAM *O'BYRNE'S IRISH PUB, 10616 WHYTE AVE* With Shannon Johnson and friends
LIVE ACOUSTIC *THE HAT, 10251 JASPER AVE* Doors at 9 p.m.
OVERTIME SOUTH *#160 4211-106 ST* 9 p.m.
[illegible]
An Horse. Tickets www.ticketmaster.ca
TROUBADOUR TUESDAYS *BRIXX BAR & GRILL, 10030-102 ST* 9 p.m.

DJs/Club Nights

BASHMENT TUESDAYS *GINGUR SKY LOUNGE, 5505-118 AVE.* 9 p.m.
[illegible]
p.m.

WEDNESDAY

Live Music

AUDREY OCHOA *COPPER POT #101, 9707-110 ST* 6 p.m. [illegible]
CADENCE WEAPON *SIR WINSTON CHURCHILL SQUARE* 6 P.M.
DUELING PIANOS *OVERTIME SOUTH, #160, 4211-106 ST.* 9 p.m.

GREG ZAWASKI *MCDOUGALL UNITED CHURCH, 10025-101 ST* 12:10 p.m.

DJs/Club Nights

BEAT PARTY WEDNESDAYS *STOLLI'S, #201, 10368 WHYTE AVE*
DJ DUST 'N TIME *BUDDY'S PUB, 11725B JASPER AVE* 9 p.m.
DJ ROXXI SLADE *LIKWID LOUNGE, 10081 JASPER AVE*
MASHED UP WEDNESDAYS *ATTIC BAR & LOUNGE, 10407 WHYTE AVE* With DJ Simon Sard, and DJ Andre Joseph
PINT NIGHT *FILTHY MCNASTY'S, 10511A WHYTE AVE*
RETROACTIVE RADIO *BLACK DOG FREEHOUSE (MAIN LEVEL), 10425 WHYTE AVE*
SOUL/BREAKS *BLACK DOG FREEHOUSE (TOP LEVEL), 10425 WHYTE AVE* With Dr Erick
TYLER (TYCO) COLLINS *THE BANK ULTRA LOUNGE, 10765 JASPER AVE* With DJ Mike Tomas. 9 p.m.
WEDNESDAYS ROCK THIS *FLUID LOUNGE, 10105-109 ST*
WILD STYLE WEDNESDAYS *BRIXX BAR & GRILL, 10030-102 ST*

UPCOMING

Live Music

A FISTFUL OF BLUES *ROSE & CROWN, #195, 10235-101 ST* JAN 8-9
BLACKBOARD JUNGLE *CASINO EDMONTON, 7055 ARGYLL RD* JAN 8-9 9 p.m. Info www.casinoabs.com
DUSTY ROADS BAND *BLUES ON WHYTE, 10329 WHYTE AVE* JAN 11-13
MISTER LUCKY *O'MAILLE'S IRISH PUB, #104, 398 ST ALBERT ROAD, MISSION HILL PLAZA* JAN 8-9 9 p.m.
THE RUM BROTHERS *YELLOWHEAD CASINO, 12464-153 ST* JAN 8-9 Info 424-9467

OPEN STAGE

THURSDAY

DV8 *8307-99 ST* Info 760-0077
DUELING PIANO SHOWS *IVORY CLUB, 10304-111 ST* Every Thu 8 p.m., Fri & Sat 9 p.m.
HAVEN SOCIAL CLUB *15120A STONY PLAIN RD* 6:30 p.m.
HERE COME THE ZOOMERS *CARROT COMMUNITY ARTS COFFEE HOUSE, 9351-118 AVE* 1 p.m. Info 752-4867
HOOLIGANZ PUB *10704-124 ST* 8 p.m.
JR GRILL & BAR *4003-106 ST* Doors at 9 p.m.
JAMMERS PUB *11948-127 AVE* 7 p.m.
LB'S PUB *#110, 23 AKINS DR, ST ALBERT* Doors at 9 p.m.
LIVE WIRE BAR *1107 KNOTTWOOD RD* Info 450-2418
NAKED CYBER CAFE *10354 JASPER AVE* 8 p.m.
NORTH GLENORA COMMUNITY HALL *13535-109A AVE* 7 p.m. Info 484-3801

FRIDAY

COAST TO COAST PUB AND GRILL *552 CALGARY TR.* Doors at 9 p.m.
DUELING PIANO SHOWS *IVORY CLUB, 10304-111 ST* Every Thu 8 p.m., Fri & Sat 9 p.m.

SATURDAY

BLUES ON WHYTE *10329 WHYTE AVE* Doors at 4 p.m.
[illegible]
poetry open mic. Doors at 7 p.m.
CROWN PUB *10709-109 ST* 2 p.m. Info 428-5618
DUELING PIANO SHOWS *IVORY CLUB, 10304-111 ST* Every Thu 8 p.m., Fri & Sat 9 p.m.
HILLTOP PUB *8220-106 AVE* Info 490-7359
JAMMERS PUB *11948-127 AVE* 7 p.m.
LB'S PUB *#110, 23 AKINS DR, ST ALBERT* Doors at 4:30 p.m.
MORANGO'S TEK CAFE *10118-79 ST* Doors at 7 p.m.
STRATHERN PUB *9514-87 ST* Second Saturday of each month. 5 p.m.

SUNDAY

BEER HUNTERS *386 ST ALBERT RD, ST ALBERT*
EDDIE SHORTS *10713-124 ST* Doors at 9 p.m.
HULBERT'S *7601-115 ST* Doors at 7 p.m.
LIKWID LOUNGE *10081 JASPER AVE* Doors at 9 p.m.
NEWCASTLE PUB & GRILL *6108-90 AVE* Doors at 3 p.m.
O'BYRNE'S IRISH PUB *10616 WHYTE AVE* Doors at 9 p.m.
ORLANDO'S 2 PUB & GRILL *#2, 13509-127 ST* Doors at 3 p.m.
SONGWRITER'S STAGE *HYDEAWAY ALL AGES ART SPACE, 10209-100 AVE* 7 p.m.

MONDAY

DEVANEY'S IRISH PUB *9013-88 AVE* Doors at 8 p.m.
IVORY CLUB *10304-111 ST* Doors at 8 p.m.
ROSE BOWL *ROUGE LOUNGE, 10111-117 ST* Doors at 9 p.m.

TUESDAY

[illegible]
AKINS DR, ST ALBERT 9 p.m.
THE DRUID *11606 JASPER AVE.* Doors at 9 p.m.
SIDELINER'S PUB *11018-127 ST* Doors at 8 p.m.
SPORTSMAN'S LOUNGE *8170-50 ST* Doors at 8 p.m.
TAP HOUSE *9020 MCKENNY AVE, ST ALBERT* Acoustic open stage. 9 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

EDDIE SHORTS *10713-124 ST* Doors at 9 p.m.
HAVEN SOCIAL CLUB *15120A STONY PLAIN RD* 7:30 p.m.
IVORY CLUB *10304-111 ST* Open DJ night. 9 p.m.
LITTLE FLOWER OPEN STAGE *FIDDLER'S ROOST, 8906-99 ST* Doors at 8 p.m.

> THAT THE FILM TURNS OUT TO BE FAIRLY HIP AND ENDEARING, IN SPITE OF THE DEJA VU IS A CREDIT TO **CERA'S CONSIDERABLE CHARM.**

FILM · YOUTH IN REVOLT · BY ELLIOT KERR | 570 words

Youth In Revolt's No Juno or Superbad

THERE'S NOTHING NEW IN THIS TEEN ANGST FLICK, BUT KING OF AWKWARDNESS MICHAEL CERA CRAZES ANYWAY

Youth in Revolt
Directed by Miguel Arteta, starring Michael Cera, Portia Doubleday, and Ray Liotta
★★☆☆☆

For those few remaining individuals who have been living without access to the culture industry since 2003, I think you'll enjoy newcomer Michael Cera's film *Youth In Revolt*. For the rest of you, it may seem a little familiar.

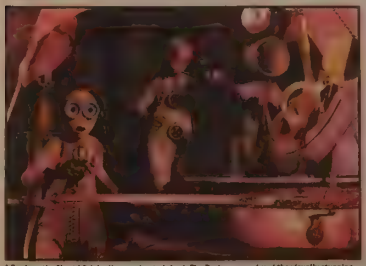
But maybe I only think the formula is a formula because I've finally become a good little hipster, ready to roll my eyes at any moving target. Perhaps this verbally over-articulate irreverent indie comedy, weighed down with references to the French pop culture of the 1960s and stop-motion animation interludes is indeed a bold new creative departure for Cera and director Miguel Arteta. And yes, I mean indie in the completely meaningless sense you are familiar with ever since Fox Searchlight had a little baby named *Juno*.

The novelty here for Cera may be that he is re-imagining his seeming lust for complete ubiquity into a more oppressive form of omnipresence. This time around he's starring in a doppelganger comedy opposite an unknown female pretty face, so as to better share uninterrupted screen time with himself. Nick Twisp is the familiar Cera – a dryly clever but awkward teenager trying to punch his v-card. Francois Dillinger is his petulant French existentialist alter-ego, whose exploits will ultimately get the attention of both the girl (Portia Doubleday) and the police (Ray Liotta). Assorted trailer trash, religious parents and wacky Berkeley radicals populate the remaining empty plot space required to make it to 90 minutes.

The film is based on the first of six Twisp novels for the young adult set by C.D. Payne, but the treatment felt as though it had lost much the sharp absurdity and hilarious verbiage of its parent. My memory of the book (admittedly now a few years distant) is fairly sidesplitting while the film leans more toward an arch wink. Plenty of pretentious teenage male intellectual nonsense remains however, particularly when discussing the underwritten female leads they refer to as slatternly wenches, or battling other pretentious teenage intellectuals for the wenches' affection (Twisp's competition is Trent, 17-year-old sound poet).

That the film turns out to be fairly hip and endearing in spite of the deja-vu is a credit to Cera's considerable charm, comic skill and sense of restraint. But all that Michael eventually begins to have a disquieting effect – as the film wears on, your mind may begin to wander to the question of why he's finally decided to give the world hard proof that he isn't a tremendous character actor, and whether *Superbad* was somewhat more super awesomer than the allegedly crazy acts of rebellion-for-love that we get here. Let's just hope they only make a truly indie-size amount of money on this iteration, and stop attempting to make us watch similar versions of the next five novels.

The Agony of Youth | Michael Cera and newcomer Portia Doubleday star in Youth in Revolt. PHOTO SUPPLIED



A Too Lengthy Short | Originally an animated short, Tim Burton co-produced the visually stunning full-length version, which seemed to lose a little magic with the revamp. PHOTO SUPPLIED.

DVD DICTATOR · THESE ARE THE MOVIES YOU MUST BUY THIS TUESDAY

9

CAST | Elijah Wood, John C. Reilly

Do you remember that movie where Elijah Wood plays a little fellah who joins a group of people to go on a journey to overcome insurmountable odds of saving a world he isn't sure is savable? Me too, but I liked it better when it was called *Happy Feet*. In the end, 9 felt a bit too long, I guess, in stretching it out from Shane Acker's Oscar-nominated short about animated stitchpunks, they lost some of the original magic. It was a bit too obvious they were filling it out the feature length space, like putting a shoe in a hamburger just to fatten it up. Sure it can last longer, but it still tastes more like a shoe.

Jennifer's Body

CAST | Megan Fox, Amanda Seyfried

Since the dawn of time there have been three undeniable truth's. 1) If kittens and puppies could harness the powers of evil, they would rule the world. 2) Never smell someone's fingers if they ask you to. And 3) if you take a cheerleader into the woods and try to make a virgin sacrifice out of her and she isn't a virgin, the devil will turn her into a succubus and make her kill your boyfriend. If you're dating boys that is. Written by Diablo Cody (*Juno*), this rush job of a movie is mediocre (medium hardcore), leaving you wishing for more, but at the same time, not really caring if you got it.

Paranormal Activity

CAST | Katie Featherston, Micah Sloat

You should not watch this movie if you have a heart condition. Or, if you are worries that at one point in your life you may get a heart condition, but you're not taking the proper steps to nullify this future malady. Or, if you are afraid of plants, beds, ladders, fire, pictures of fire, time lapse photography or left-handedness. To summate: If you consider fear a deterrent to you living your life in a healthy, functional way, either rationally or not, you should not watch this movie. Also, you shouldn't watch other people when they sleep. That is just creepy. Unless you love them, then it's fine.

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FILM · BEACHES OF AGNES · BY MARK KANDBORG | 646 words

The Memories Of Agnes

The Sands of Time | Agnes Varda contemplates her lengthy life in film. PHOTO SUPPLIED

CINEMATIC POETRY RULES OVER NARRATIVE, BUT VARDA'S BEACHES ARE TOOLS BEAUTIFUL

[illegible]
Directed by Agnes Varda, running at Metro Cinema
Jan. 8 & 10, 7 p.m., Jan. 9 & 11, 9 p.m.
★★★★☆

"While I live, I will remember" – Agnes Varda

In *Les Plages D'Agnes* (*The Beaches of Agnes*) Agnes Varda looks back on her life of 80 years and shows it to us the only way she knows how, through image as metaphor. Literally walking backward through moments and memories, she tells a story that is at once personal and universal.

Varda was a fringe member of the French "New Wave" movement in the 1950s and 60s. Her films were characteristic of that ultra low-budget style, employing friends as actors and focusing her little hand- held camera on difficult subjects, poignant and existential. Not surprisingly, she uses the same techniques here.

Fearlessly, she turns her back on narrative structure and gives us image after image, memory after memory in a beautiful mess, tied together at times by nothing more than the fact that what we see has come from her mind, or at least crossed it. There is a general chronological thread to what she shows us, but even that thread snaps from time to time as her memories, as she says, "are like flies swarming through the air. Bits. . jumbled up." Rather than organizing them for us, she lets them jumble. "It's like doing a puzzle. You place the pieces here and there until it comes together. But there's a hole in the middle." These illuminating yet cryptic insights surface throughout the film as she speaks directly to the camera, remnants of wonder and sadness playing across her still youthful face.

She uses fragments of her work throughout the film, and you get the sense that they are a part of her. At times, it's difficult to tell old footage from new, as she revisits sets and actors, sometimes even re-filming them. Images superimpose and jostle for position, for existence on the screen.

All of this makes the first half of this film difficult for the North American cineaste to watch. It's a bit like sitting with your grandmother as she pulls out faded photos and speaks endlessly about events that seem so distant, even from her. She begins what could be an interesting story about the Nazi occupation, then veers off into a lengthy reminiscence of a couple who lived down the street, whose son had a hat she liked. After an hour you begin to feel restless, searching for a point, or a polite way out. And this isn't even your grandmother. Then I realize, yes, it is. It's also the old woman or old man that you'll one day become. It's all of us.

This isn't a film about her life and her memories; it's a film about our lives and our memories. "It all happened yesterday", she says, "and it's already the past. A sensation already combined with the image, which will remain."

She shows us what we know already, that the great meaning or our lives is never something that we can understand while we can still touch it. We grasp the moments, if at all, only once they have passed. The great tragedy of life is that it is fleeting. The fragments of her 80 years fly by on the screen just as they did for her. Moments of great import are gone, replaced by another, and another. The pace is unrelenting, but that's the point. That's life.

This is cinematic poetry at its finest, infused with a subtle power and depth. As a great filmmaker, Varda shows us, makes us feel with images first. The thinking, as it should, will come later. For all of us.

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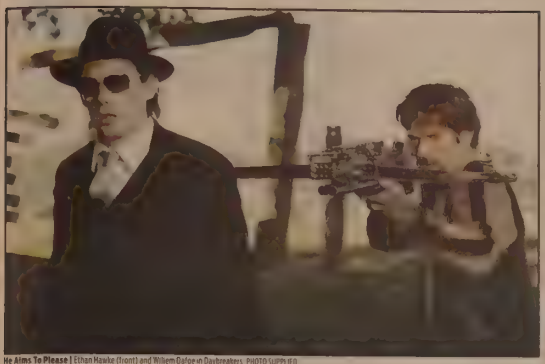
FILM · MORE VAMPIRES · BY RANDY BROSOSKY | 569 words

There Will Be Blood



He Aims To Please | Ethan Hawke (front) and Willem Dafoe in Daybreakers PHOTO SUPPLIED

DAYBREAKERS HAS A GREAT PREMISE, BUT WITH LITTLE FOLLOW-THOUGH, OR YEAH, THERE'S A LOT OF BLOOD

DAYBREAKERS

[illegible]

Starring Ethan Hawke, Willem Dafoe, Claudia Karvan,

[illegible]

★★★☆☆

There's a lot of blood. And gore. And viscera. *Daybreakers* is a bit of a bloodbath really, which is ironic for a movie that is about a global blood shortage. Most of the human race has become vampires, they're the rule, not the exception. Which poses an obvious problem. If everyone is becoming vampires, what's everyone going to do about food? Enter the main conflict of the movie.

Ethan Hawke plays Edward Dalton, a hematologist for the main blood bank managing the supply and demand of humans and blood, Bromley Marks Pharmaceuticals. He's working on a formula for synthetic blood. For him, it's about saving the human race from being hunted to extinction. For his boss, played by Sam Neill, it's about finding a profitable solution to starvation, which turns vampires in this world into mindless, powerful beasts that look like a cross between the original Nosferatu and a hairless bat.

As long as you're not turned off by the blood, the movie is a bit of a feast for the eyes. The gritty, grainy, desaturated feel allows the art director a fair bit of room, though he has used most of his creative bits on the human harvesting facility. Granted, it's not far off from the *Matrix*'s human storage units, but here it's wrapped in a corporate evil instead of a mechanical one.

The cast is strong. Hawke is always reliable as a vulnerable hero, trying to do the right thing – not a stretch but credible. Sam Neill has the uncanny ability to chew the scenery without showing his teeth – also ironic for playing a vampire. And Willem Dafoe is always watchable. The rest of the performers hold their own in the company of these three.

Unfortunately, as the movie starts to tire and slow down, the sound track (which would be beautiful on its own) tries to pick up the flagging pace. Music in a movie should support the emotional tone of the scene but here it seems to be instructing it. "This is an epic moment. Do you feel epic now? Listen, isn't this part epic?" The more the story slips from credibility to fromage the harder the music pushes.

Worse still, for those of us who want to see a great premise actually go somewhere, there are lots of ideas that are left on the floor of the conceptual cutting room. The symbols are there, but they could have dredged the story depths just a bit further to have some profound resonance with their audience. The main one being the comparison of blood to oil, as a dwindling natural resource. One would think that it's the elephant in the room, that the parallels are undeniable. Seems the Spierig brothers surgically removed the elephant. All traces of it. You don't have to dress this pachyderm up in a party hat and a spotlight to make a statement, but the metaphor looks like it has been scrubbed from the movie. That it's been completely and deliberately washed away.

With a tremendous amount of blood. And gore. And viscera.

YOUNG VICTORIA

The Young Victoria
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FILM · VICTORIA · BY STACEY LAWRENCE | 670 words

The Young Victoria: We Are Not Amused

BUT WE ARE ENLIGHTENED BY BLUNT'S YOUNG QUEEN. IF YOU DON'T MIND A HISTORY LESSON ON FILM

THE YOUNG VICTORIA

Directed by Jean-Marc Vallee, starring Emily Blunt, Rupert Friend, Paul Bettany, [illegible] and Mark Strong

★★★☆☆

This is a story with heart. *The Young Victoria* is colourful and conservative. Heavy in substance, often light hearted in character and like a good fairy tale, it starts with a princess locked away in her palace

Right away you are thrown into conspiracy and intrigue as young Victoria is in the pretty position of being third in line for England's throne So, under the guise of her safety, her evil stepmother (okay, not really – her weak-minded mother and her puppet master consort) isolate Victoria within the walls of her own home presumably to foster a complete dependence upon her jailors Director Jean-Marc Vallee's imagery is completely compelling. We watch a lonely girl running a stick along the fence that imprisons her like a guard running his baton along a jail cell, only Victoria is on the wrong side It feels more like moving painting than a movie Artwork with fangs and halos, crowns and scepters, gowns and silk flowers. And Emily Blunt creates a portrait-perfect Victoria

With Julian Fellowes script feeling more like an Austin novel, with emphasis placed on details and not action (in fact scheming is the main action of this film), so much is left to the actors

Blunt is subtle and charismatic and unpredictably unpretentious She plays a strong and impetuous princess, and though she rarely puts up a real fight to the ridiculous rules that coddle her much past the proper age, her snide remarks, intelligent opinions, and conviction in her own abilities reveal the woman she will become. She is definitely not the kind princess who is waiting for a prince to save her Freedom comes only with the crown

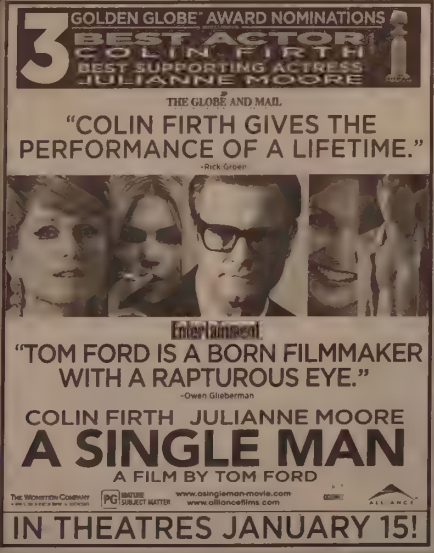
Along with the scheming comes dialogue heavy with history lessons, so don't go to this movie if you don't feel like paying close attention Names and details and past plotting is all laced within polite conversation, and hidden under heavy accents and staunch expressions It gives you a very good idea of the deceit and ambition that surround the royals with characters calculating each others moves like a game of chess But details are often missed under the sheer volume of them And sometimes you feel like you need the chess board in front of you to check where everyone stands

With all the plotting and isolation of the first half, the second half of the movie is refreshingly lighter with love. Albert, a German prince, was a pawn sent to meet Victoria by her uncle Leopold to woo her into marriage Rupert Friend's Albert is awkward and earnest. You can't help but love him. Despite his education in all her favorite things making his intentions obvious and annoying to a girl not intending to lose an ounce of power to marriage, his genuine strength of character kindles a warmth between the two. After a few bumps along the royal road, a few political mishaps and the enlightenment of mistaking "strength with stubbornness" Victoria calls Albert to court and in a moment of pure sincerity proposes marriage

The honeymoon period is delightful

This film is really is all about the details and they've considered every single one. The costumes are gorgeous, the setting exquisite and the cast of strong actors divine Mark Strong plays Victoria's mother's consort with a special kind of ambition reserved for nightmares And Paul Bethany's portrayal of Lord Melbourne, Queen Victoria's often ill-advising adviser, is genius in his expressions which often reveal pompous opinions completely contrary to what he is saying You never really like him and never quite trust him which quite a feat for the comical man we love in *A Knights Tale* And the story well it's heavy with details that can bog it down, but it manages to leave you feeling so many emotions Pride, contentment, and triumph all mixed in with a whole lot of sad It's bittersweet and beautiful

[illegible]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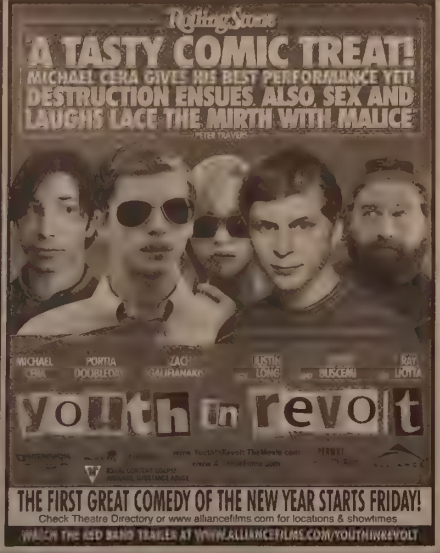
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MOVIE GUIDE · WHAT'S PLAYING IN THE THEATRES

OPENING THIS WEEK

THE BEACHES OF AGNES
The Beaches of Agnes is an auto-biographical documentary about renowned French filmmaker Agnes Varda. At the age of 80, Varda chooses the context of beaches to reflect upon her life, incorporating film bits, animation, snap shots and other effects to create a kind of life-long scrapbook

DAYBREAKERS
Daybreakers, featuring Ethan Hawke and Willem Dafoe, is a bit of a bloodbath, which is ironic for a movie based on a global blood shortage. Most of the human race has become vampires, but if everyone is becoming vampires, what's everyone going to do about food?

LEAP YEAR
Amy Adams plays Anna, a young woman waiting for a marriage proposal. When her boyfriend doesn't pop the question, Anna takes matters into her own hands. She follows him to Ireland, but she soon discovers love's path has many unexpected twists.

PRESUMED GUILTY
A young, wrongly convicted Mexican man's only hope of freedom rides on the film-making talents of two lawyers. As they set out to make a documentary that should prove their client's innocence, they unexpectedly manage to expose harsh contradictions in the Mexican justice system

YOUTH IN REVOLT
In this new indie comedy Nick Twisp (Michael Cera) is a clever but awkward teenager trying to punch his v-card, while his French existentialist alter-ego gets the attention of both the girl (Portia Doubleday) and the police (Ray Liotta.)

NOW PLAYING

THE YOUNG VICTORIA
Young Princess Victoria is caught in a royal power struggle. Her first years of rule are turbulent, but it is her blossoming love affair with Prince Albert that will determine the strength of her reign. A passionate and romantic look at one of history's greatest loves stories

★★★½☆

NINE
Self-centred movie director Guido Contini turns to the four female corners in his world for inspiration: his wife, his mistress, his muse and his mother. But a mid-life crisis strains this delicate balance between his creative profession and demanding personal life

THE IMAGINARIUM OF DOCTOR PARNASSUS
With the extraordinary gift of guiding imaginations Doctor Parnassus is also cursed, having traded his daughter to the devil in exchange for immortality. In this captivating, and imaginative race against time, Dr Parnassus must undo the mistakes of his past in a never-ending landscape of surreal obstacles!

★★★★

UP IN THE AIR
A drama-comedy-romance about a corporate downsizing expert who flies from city to city laying people off. Things get interesting when he meets the woman of his dreams as he's about to lose his own job, while on the verge of getting his 10-millionth frequent-flyer mile

★★★★★

SHERLOCK HOLMES
The legendary sleuth and his assistant are on the hunt after a serial killer and occult "sorcerer" returns from his grave and revives his killing spree. Temptresses, deceit and black magic must be overcome to save England and the maiden

★★★★

IT'S COMPLICATED
During her son's graduation, an older woman hooks up with her ex-husband who has remarried a much younger woman. Being her ex's mistress is one thing, but things get more complicated after she falls for a successful architect

★★★★½

[illegible]
James Cameron might actually be more excited by the release of his movie than the rest of us put together. A 15-year-old concept, this film starring Sam Worthington, Zoe Saldana and Sigourney Weaver percolated in his mind until the technology to make it finally caught up

★★★★½

DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THE MORGANS?
Hugh Grant and Sarah Jessica Parker play a couple with a rapidly failing marriage. They witness a murder and are thrown into the witness protection program. Isolated together, forced to get along. Hilarity and sappy romance likely ensue

★★☆☆☆

INVICTUS
Morgan Freeman and Matt Damon star in the inspiring true story of how Nelson Mandela joined forces with the captain of South Africa's rugby team, Francois Pienaar, to help unite their country

★★

BROTHERS
Tobey Maguire, Natalie Portman, and Jake Gyllenhaal star in Jim Sheridan's drama about a love triangle involving a young woman, her soldier husband, and her brother-in-law

★★★

EVERYBODY'S FINE
Robert De Niro, Kate Beckinsale, Drew Barrymore, and Sam Rockwell star in the story of a widower who goes on a cross-country trip to visit his four children, all of whom have been keeping secrets from him about their lives

★★★

FANTASTIC MR. FOX
Wes Anderson's children's film may be the most purely enjoyable thing he's ever done. It's a total delight

★★★★★

SHOWTIMES JANUARY 8-14, 2010

GARNEAU
8712 109 STREET • 780-433-0728

THE IMAGINARIUM OF DOCTOR PARNASSUS PG
[illegible]
Coarse language, frightening scenes

PRINCESS
10337 82 AVENUE • 780-433-0728

THE YOUNG VICTORIA PG
Nightly 7:00, 9:10. Sat & Sun matinees 2:00

PRECIOUS 14A
Nightly 6:50, 9:10; Fri Sat & Sun matinees 2:30. Sexual violence, coarse [illegible]

PARKLAND
130 Century Crossing, Spruce Grove • 780-962-2332

LEAP YEAR PG
Nightly 7:10, 9:20; matinees Sat Sun & Tues 1:10, 3:20

SHERLOCK HOLMES PG
Nightly 6:45, 9:25; matinees Sat Sun & Tues 12:45, 3:25. Violence, not recommended for young children

UP IN THE AIR 14A
[illegible] coarse language

IT'S COMPLICATED 14A
Nightly 7:05, 9:25; matinees Sat Sun & Tues 1:05, 3:25

[illegible] PG
Nightly 7:00, 9:15; matinees Sat Sun & Tues 1:00, 3:15. Movies for [illegible]

ALVIN AND THE CHIPMUNKS: THE SQUEAKQUEL PG
Nightly 6:50, 9:10; matinees Sat Sun & Tues 12:50, 3:10

THE PRINCESS AND THE FROG G
Matinees Sat Sun & Tues 12:55, 3:05

AVATAR PG
Nightly 7:30; matinees Sat Sun & Thurs 2:00
Violence, not recommended for young children

METRO CINEMA
9828-101A AVENUE, ZEIDLER HALL, CITADEL THEATRE) • 780-425-9212

THE BEACHES OF AGNES STC
Fri & Sun 7:00, Sat & Mon 9:00

GENIUS WITHIN: THE INNER LIFE OF GLENN GOULD G
Fri & Sun 9:00, Sat & Mon 7:00

GRANDIN THEATRE
[illegible] • 780-458-9822

SHERLOCK HOLMES PG
Daily 1:30, 4:05, 7:00, 9:20. No passes.

LEAP YEAR PG
Daily 1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 7:05, 9:05.

ALVIN AND THE CHIPMUNKS SQUEAKQUEL G
Daily 1:15, 3:20, 5:05, 7:10, 8:55. No passes.

AVATAR PG
Daily 12:40, 3:30, 6:20, 9:15
Violence, not recommended for young children. No passes.

IT'S COMPLICATED 14A
[illegible] 7:20, 9:30

LEDUC CINEMAS
4702-50 St. Leduc • 780-986-2728

DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THE MORGANS? PG
Nightly 6:55, 9:30; matinees Sat & Sun 12:55, 3:20.

AVATAR PG
Nightly 6:45, 9:15; matinees Sat & Sun 12:30, 3:35. Violence, not recommended for young children.

ALVIN AND THE CHIPMUNKS: THE SQUEAKQUEL G
Nightly 7:05, 9:15; matinees Sat & Sun 1:05, 3:15.

SHERLOCK HOLMES PG
Nightly 7:00, 9:35; matinees Sat & Sun 1:00, 3:35
Violence, not recommended for young children

WETASKIWIN CINEMA 4 PLEX
3840-56 Wetaskiwin • 780-352-3922

AVATAR PG
Nightly 6:45, 9:45; matinees Sat & Sun 12:30, 3:35
Violence, not recommended for young children

ALVIN AND THE CHIPMUNKS: THE SQUEAKQUEL G
[illegible]

SHERLOCK HOLMES PG
[illegible]

DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THE MORGANS? PG
[illegible]

SOUTH EDMONTON
1525 99 Street • 780-436-8585

YOUTH IN REVOLT 14A
Fri-Thurs 12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:40, 10:15
Sexual content, coarse language, substance abuse.

DAYBREAKERS 18A
[illegible]

LEAP YEAR PG
Fri-Thurs 1:00, 3:30, 6:40, 9:40. No passes.

SHERLOCK HOLMES PG
Fri-Sun 12:15, 3:15, 6:45, 7:45, 9:45, 10:45. Mon-Thurs 12:15, 3:15, 6:45, 7:30, 9:45, 10:30. Not recommended for young children, violence

IT'S COMPLICATED 14A
Fri-Thurs 12:20, 3:40, 6:30, 9:15

THE IMAGINARIUM OF DOCTOR PARNASSUS PG
Fri-Thurs 12:50, 4:10, 7:25, 10:20. Frightening scenes, coarse language

AVATAR 3D PG
Fri-Thurs 11:45, 12:45, 1:30, 3:15, 4:30, 6:30, 7:00, 8:00, 10:00, 10:30. Violence, not recommended for young children. No passes.

DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THE MORGANS? PG
Fri, Sun-Thurs 1:10, 3:50, 6:35, 9:10; Sat 3:50, 6:35, 9:10

THE PRINCESS AND THE FROG G
Fri-Thurs 11:55, 2:20, 4:50, 7:35, 9:55

INVICTUS STC
[illegible]

UP IN THE AIR 14A
Fri-Wed 12:25, 4:20, 7:15, 10:05, Thurs 4:20, 7:15, 10:05. Star & Strollers Screening Thurs 1:00. Coarse language.

THE TWILIGHT SAGA: NEW MOON PG
Fri-Thurs 12:30, 3:45, 7:10, 10:10. Violence

THE BLIND SIDE PG
Fri-Thurs 12:10, 7:20. Mature subject matter

THE METROPOLITAN OPERA: DER ROSENKAVALIER STC
Sat 11:00

NORTH EDMONTON
14231 137th Avenue • 780-732-2223

YOUTH IN REVOLT 14A
Fri-Thurs 12:10, 2:40, 5:10, 7:40, 10:00
Sexual content, coarse language, substance abuse.

DAYBREAKERS 18A
Fri-Thurs 12:30, 2:50, 5:20, 8:00, 10:40. Gory scenes.

LEAP YEAR PG
Fri-Tues, Thurs 1:30, 4:00, 7:10, 9:45. Wed 4:00, 7:10, 9:45. Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1:00. No passes.

SHERLOCK HOLMES PG
Fri-Thurs 1:10, 4:20, 6:30, 7:30, 9:20, 10:20
Not recommended for young children, violence

IT'S COMPLICATED 14A
Fri-Thurs 12:40, 3:40, 6:50, 9:40

ALVIN AND THE CHIPMUNKS: THE SQUEAKQUEL G
Fri-Thurs 12:00, 1:00, 2:10, 3:20, 4:20, 5:15, 6:20, 9:00. No passes

AVATAR 3D PG
Fri-Thurs 11:45, 1:15, 3:15, 4:45, 7:00, 8:30, 10:30
[illegible]

DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THE MORGANS? PG
Fri, Sun-Thurs 1:50, 4:40, 7:50, 10:15. Sat 4:40, 7:50, 10:15.

THE PRINCESS AND THE FROG G
Fri-Thurs 1:40, 4:30, 6:45, 9:10

INVICTUS STC
[illegible]

UP IN THE AIR 14A
Fri-Tues, Thurs 1:20, 4:15, 7:20, 9:50, Wed 4:15, 7:20, 9:50; Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1:00. Coarse language

THE TWILIGHT SAGA: NEW MOON PG
Fri-Thurs 12:50, 3:50, 7:15, 10:10. Violence

THE BLIND SIDE PG
Fri-Thurs 12:20, 6:40. Mature subject matter

[illegible] STC
[illegible]

CITY CENTRE 9 CINEMAS
[illegible] • 780-42[illegible]

[illegible] PG
Fri-Thurs 12:30, 3:30, 7:00, 10:00. Not recommended for young children, violence

AVATAR 3D PG
Fri-Thurs 12:00, 1:00, 4:00, 5:00, 8:00, 9:00. Violence, not recommended for young children. No passes

[illegible] [illegible]
Fri-Thurs 12:40, 3:20, 6:50, 9:35. Coarse language. No passes

IT'S COMPLICATED 14A
Fri-Wed 12:50, 3:40, 6:40, 9:25, Thurs 12:50, 3:50, 9:25. No passes.

LEAP YEAR PG
Fri-Thurs 12:10, 2:30, 5:05, 7:40, 10:15

YOUTH IN REVOLT 14A
Fri-Thurs 12:20, 2:40, 5:10, 7:35, 9:55. Sexual content, coarse language, [illegible]

DAYBREAKERS 18A
Fri-Thurs 12:15, 2:45, 5:15, 7:45, 10:20. Gory scenes

NINE PG
Fri-Thurs 12:25, 3:10, 6:30, 9:15

CLAREVIEW 10 CINEMAS
[illegible]

THE TWILIGHT SAGA: NEW MOON PG
Fri-Sun 6:35, 9:25, Mon-Thurs 8:15. Violence

UP IN THE AIR 14A
Fri-Sun 9:15, Mon-Thurs 7:50. Coarse language

THE PRINCESS AND THE FROG G
Fri 4:00, 6:50. Sat-Sun 1:30, 4:00, 6:50. Mon-Thurs 4:50

AVATAR 3D PG
Fri 4:20, 4:50, 8:00, 9:00. Sat-Sun 12:45, 1:15, 4:20, 4:50, 8:00, 9:00. Mon-Thurs 4:30, 7:30, 8:00. Violence, not recommended for young children

ALVIN AND THE CHIPMUNKS: THE SQUEAKQUEL G
Fri 3:50, 4:40, 7:00, 9:20; Sat-Sun 1:10, 2:00, 3:50, 4:40, 7:00, 9:20; Mon-Thurs 5:00, 5:30, 8:10

IT'S COMPLICATED 14A
Fri 4:10, 6:55, 9:40. Sat-Sun 1:20, 4:10, 6:55, 9:40. Mon-Thurs 5:10, 8:30

SHERLOCK HOLMES PG
Fri 3:45, 6:40, 9:35. Sat-Sun 12:25, 3:45, 6:40, 9:35. Mon-Thurs 5:20, 8:20. Not recommended for young children, violence

LEAP YEAR PG
Fri 4:30, 7:10, 9:45. Sat-Sun 1:25, 4:30, 7:10, 9:45. Mon-Thurs 5:40, 8:35

YOUTH IN REVOLT 14A
Fri 4:15, 6:45, 9:30. Sat-Sun 1:50, 4:15, 6:45, 9:20. Mon-Thurs 5:25, 8:50. Sexual content, coarse language, substance abuse

DAYBREAKERS 18A
Fri 4:45, 7:20, 9:50. Sat-Sun 1:40, 4:45, 7:20, 9:50. Mon-Thurs 5:50, 8:40. Gory scenes

WESTMOUNT CENTRE CINEMAS
[illegible]

SHERLOCK HOLMES PG
Fri 6:50, 9:55. Sat-Sun 2:45, 3:55, 6:50, 9:55. Mon-Thurs 5:00, 8:00. Not recommended for young children, violence

ALVIN AND THE CHIPMUNKS: THE SQUEAKQUEL G
Fri 7:15, 9:30. Sat-Sun 1:15, 3:35, 7:15, 9:30. Mon-Thurs [illegible]30, 8:30

IT'S COMPLICATED [illegible]
[illegible] 7:05. Sat-Sun [illegible] 4:05, 7:05, 10:05. Mon-Thurs [illegible]

INVICTUS [illegible]
Fri 6:35, 9:40. Sat-Sun 1[illegible], 3[illegible]45, 6:35, 9:40. Mon-Thurs [illegible], 8:10

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DAYBREAKERS 18A
Fri-Thurs 12:00, 2:40, 5:10, 7:50, 10:45. Gory scenes

SHERLOCK HOLMES PG
Fri-Thurs 12:15, 3:30, 7:20, 10:20. Not recommended for young children, [illegible]

NINE PG
[illegible]

IT'S COMPLICATED 14A
Fri-Thurs 11:50, 3:50, 6:50, 9:50

ALVIN AND THE CHIPMUNKS: THE SQUEAKQUEL G
Fri-Thurs 11:50, 2:20, 4:40, 7:15, 9:30. No passes.

AVATAR: IMAX PG
Fri-Thurs 12:45, 2:00, 4:45, 6:30, 8:45, 10:15. Fri-Thurs 11:45, 3:15, 7:00, 10:30. Violence, not recommended for young children. No passes.

DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THE MORGANS? PG
Fri, Sun-Tues, Thurs 1:30, 4:30, 7:10, 9:45. Sat 4:15, 7:10, 9:45. Wed 4:30, 7:10, 9:45. Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1:00.

THE PRINCESS AND THE FROG G
Fri-Thurs 1:30, 4:10, 6:45, 9:20

UP IN THE AIR 14A
Fri-Tues, Thurs 1:15, 4:20, 7:30, 10:10, Wed 4:20, 7:30, 10:10; Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1:00. Coarse language.

[illegible] PG
Fri-Tues, Thurs 12:30, 4:00, 7:40, 10:40. Wed 12:30, 4:00, 10:40
[illegible]

2012 PG
[illegible]

THE METROPOLITAN OPERA: DER ROSENKAVALIER STC

CINEMA CITY MOVIES 12
[illegible]

3 IDIOTS HINDI W/E.S.T PG
[illegible]

ARMORED 14A
Fri-Sat 2:00, 4:50, 7:30, 10:00, 12:15. Sun-Thurs 2:00, 4:50, 7:30, 10:00

NINJA ASSASSIN 18A
Fri-Sat 1:45, 4:25, 7:25, 9:55, 12:05. Sun-Thurs 1:45, 4:25, 7:25, 9:55. Gory violence

FANTASTIC MR. FOX PG
Fri-Sat 1:25, 4:10, 6:45, 9:15, 11:25. Sun-Thurs 1:25, 4:10, 6:45, 9:15

PLANET 51 G
Fri-Thurs 1:40, 4:20, 7:00, 9:00

THE BOONDOCK SAINTS II: ALL SAINTS DAY 18A
Fri-Sat 1:20, 4:15, 6:50, 9:30, 12:00. Sun-Thurs 1:20, 4:15, 6:50, 9:30. Violence, language may offend.

ASTRO BOY PG
Fri-Sat 1:50, 4:45, 7:20, 9:40, 12:00. Sun-Thurs 1:50, 4:45, 7:20, 9:40

WHERE THE WILD THINGS ARE PG
[illegible] 9:25. Not recommended for young children

LAW ABIDING CITIZEN 18A
Fri-Sat 1:35, 4:30, 7:15, 9:50, 12:10; Sun-Thurs 1:35, 4:30, 7:15, 9:50. Brutal violence

COUPLES RETREAT PG
[illegible]

CLOUDY WITH A CHANCE OF MEATBALLS G
Fri-Thurs 1:55, 4:40, 7:05

INGLOURIOUS BASTERDS 18A
[illegible]

THE HURT LOCKER 14A
Fri-Thurs 1:10, 4:05, 6:55, 9:45. Violence, [illegible]

GALAXY CINEMAS
[illegible]

YOUTH IN REVOLT 14A
Fri 4:10, 7:20, 10:00. Sat-Sun 1:10, 4:10, 7:20, 10:00. Mon-Thurs [illegible]20, 10:00. Sexual content, coarse language, substance abuse

DAYBREAKERS 18A
[illegible]

LEAP YEAR PG
[illegible] 4:30, 6:50, 9:[illegible]. Mon-Thurs [illegible] 9:40 [illegible]

SHERLOCK HOLMES PG
Fri 3:30, 7:15, 10:20. Sat-Sun 12:15, 3:30, 7:15, 10:20. Mon-Thurs 7:15, 10:20. Not recommended for young children, violence

IT'S COMPLICATED 14A
Fri 4:30, 7:40, 10:30. Sat-Sun 1:30, 4:20, 7:40, 10:30. Mon-Thurs 7:00, 10:30

ALVIN AND THE CHIPMUNKS: THE SQUEAKQUEL G
Fri 4:45, 7:10, 9:30. Sat-Sun 12:00, 2:30, 4:45, 7:10, 9:30. Mon-Thurs 7:10, 9:30. No passes.

AVATAR PG
Fri 4:30, 8:15. Sat-Sun 1:00, 4:30, 8:15. Mon-Thurs 8:15. Fri, Mon-Thurs 7:00, 10:30. Sat-Sun 11:45, 3:15, 7:00, 10:30
Not recommended for young children, violence. No passes.

[illegible] G
Fri, Mon-Thurs 6:45, 9:15. Sat-Sun 12:20, 2:45, 6:45, 9:15

UP IN THE AIR 14A
Fri 3:45, 7:45, 10:15. Sat-Sun 12:30, 3:45, 7:45, 10:15. Mon-Thurs 7:45, 10:15. Coarse language.

DEATH COMES TO kids in the Hall

NO, NOBODY DIED, BUT THOSE CRAZY KIDS HAVE A NEW SHOW. DEATH COMES TO TOWN. SEE TALKS TO BRUCE MCCULLOCH ABOUT THEIR LATEST TAKE ON FUNNY

DEATH COMES TO TOWN

Starring Scott Thompson, Dave Foley, Mark McKinney, Bruce McCulloch

on Showcase (Sunday)

Airing on CBC starting Feb. 7

"I actually like a lot of my ideas to be quite frank," *Kids in the Hall*'s Bruce McCulloch says. "I'm proud of lots of the stuff we've done . . . well maybe Ham of Truth wasn't so good. But, you know, Kevin is the one who looks back on things and frets over them. I think one of the reasons I fucking did *Death Comes To Town* was to stop him talking about *Brain Candy*."

As you can see, one of McCulloch's most endearing qualities is his ability to be funny while still adding a bit of truth to what he says. The first time I noticed this was in the early '90s. It was McCulloch's "Open Letter to the Guy who Stole his Bike Wheel" monologue. You could tell he was pissed off. It wasn't a fart joke or a sex reference, he took something from his actual life, didn't fictionalize it and he made it to the point – it's [illegible] and amusing. At this moment, I realized that you could have a point and still be funny. Well, it was the first time I saw it coming from a Canadian [illegible].

McCulloch's newest project, *Death Comes To Town*, is *KITH*'s return to Canadian television. The synopsis is simple: Death (played by Mark McKinney) comes to a small Canadian town, dressed in a codpiece and cape, and exposes some of its dark underbelly. The true angle is that it's an eight-part miniseries. Quoted as being "*Corner Gas* meets *Twin Peaks*" it's an innovative style to encapsulate their sketches.

"I came up with the idea and I outlined it in the briefest of fortune-cookie type of ways, basically 12 words, and we had discussed it as a film," McCulloch says. "When we were on tour it came up that we should do it for TV and somehow the idea of doing it as a miniseries came up and it just seemed natural to everybody. And with the guy [illegible] once you get consensus, you just go because they are going to change their minds in a minute."

"The beautiful thing about *Death Comes To Town* is we don't need numbers," he continues. "When I did a show on ABC called *Carpoolers*, [illegible]

> I ALWAYS SAY I'M A WRITER BECAUSE THAT IS WHAT I **GET PAID MOST TO DO NOW.**

I Will Crush Your Head
KITH: Bruce McCulloch as a sleaze jewyer
PHOTO SUPPLIED

you did was get on the air and try to stay on the air as long as you can. With this it's a machine we built to destroy. We decided to do a thing that was eight episodes. We aren't going to get yanked off the air if we don't get good reviews. We did it to do it, and we've done it.

In ye olde days, McCulloch could be found singing (he released two albums), directing (*Superstar*, *Stealing Harvard*) and neurotically acting his way into your heart. As a comedian, he has created some of *KITH*'s most memorable characters. I'm sure at some point in your life you've heard someone scream "My pen! My pen!" and even though you wanted to stab them to death with a homemade weapon you knew they were referencing one of McCulloch's characters. As a comedian, he's a bit of a legend. Well, maybe he's not a comedian.

"I always say I'm a writer because that is what I get paid most to do now," McCulloch says. Before I did comedy I was always a writer and the *KITH* stuff I've done and subsequent to that are all things that I think of. And I'm a reluctant actor. I only do it if someone finds me and makes me do it. Essentially, I've only done *KITH*. And I've directed but even with this it's more fun to be an executive producer because being a director is being a grunt. It's a blue collar job and it's really hard. It's not just the vision, it's about getting all the shots and then regetting all the shots. So if I had to call myself something I'd call myself a writer because it's the kindest word I'd call myself.

It's what McCulloch and the rest of the *Kids* did for Canadian comedy that makes him still relevant. I will refrain from using the words "trail blazer" or "paved the way" but it's kind of what McCulloch and *KITH* did. In most towns everyone wanted to be in a band, or join a sports club. When I watched *KITH*, I realized that I wanted to be in a sketch comedy troupe. I didn't know it then, but I would still be referencing McCulloch's style in some of my own work, with the comedy troupe I work with Mostly Water Theatre. There is nothing quite like walking out on stage all dejected and having people laugh at you. Of course, you hope they're laughing with you.

I do know that when I moved from Alberta to Toronto 20 years ago, there was not really an industry in Toronto." McCulloch says. "There were three troupes, Second City included. And I realize now that in the modern landscape there are hundreds of sketch comedy troupes. So, I think we are part of the proliferation of sketch troupes, I don't know if our material influences them. I think people think, 'Oh, I can be in a sketch troupe, that's a cool thing to do more than previously. But I don't go and watch young comics and say 'Oh, that's a very Bruce McCulloch thing to say,' because that would make me a prick."

Prick or not, it's not how you label him that makes him relevant, it's what he does. Moving from project to project, McCulloch rarely looks back on his work before he moves onto the next. It's not that he can't stand his work, it's that he just loves what he does. McCulloch loves his art with all of his big glowing nerd heart.

"We were nerds and we are still all nerds," he says. "Human giant or the Imponderables, whatever comic troupe you like ... essentially comics are all nerds anyway. Especially sketch troupes. For example, I like the show *So You Think You Can Dance*. I like it because it's not like *American Idol*, it's not like they are going to sell a trillion records. They are dancers, for fuck sakes, they are doing it because they love it. And it's a lot like sketch comedians, they are in it because they love it. They don't go 'Wow, there is a good way to make a living,' because it is a terrible way to make a living. Nobody makes a living doing sketch comedy. When we were at our height, we barely made a living doing it. That is a thing that I take pride in. There are artists that are doing what we did and they are doing it more for the art than to make it."

The Kids Are Back and Bigger Than Ever | Well, Bruce McCulloch (in a fat suit) is. The other kids are more or less the same size. PHOTO SUPPLIED

ARTS BRIEF · KIDS IN THE HALL'S NEW SHOW IS A FUNNY LITTLE DEATH

Death Comes To Town

CBC Television | Premiers Sunday, Jan. 12
For devotees of *Kids in the Hall*, their return to the small screen is cause for celebration.

Death Comes to Town is set in the fictional Canadian town of Shuckton, which is in the midst of an incredibly ill-conceived attempt at wooing the Olympic Games. The town's boorish and strangely popular mayor is played by Bruce McCulloch, but don't get too attached to his character. He's quickly a victim, kicking off what I assume will be a string of killings by none other than Death himself, who has, indeed, come to town. Why Death is visiting this obscure berg is part of the mystery that will unfold over the eight episodes.

The town is populated almost entirely by the Kids in character. All five of them — Dave Foley, Kevin McDonald, McCulloch, Bruce McKinney and Scott Thompson — make appearances in various guises and genres.

McCulloch is memorable in a fat suit (as seen on our cover) as a former hockey star whose career went into the crapper when he blew the big game. But the great character is Death, played by McKinney, who comes into town on a Greyhound and rides a bicycle.

McKinney has a potbelly, he's not afraid to show off, wears a codpiece, he's also not afraid to show off, and is the proud possessor of one, single snaggle tooth. He may well be the weirdest, and funniest, spectre of death ever.

It's good to have the Kids back on TV, if only for eight weeks. But I don't know if their fan base will be pleased. None of the regular characters appear in the first two episodes — no Chicken Lady, no Cathy and Kathie, no Buddy Cole, no Cabbage Head, no Darill. Yet to their credit, they have created new characters instead of just falling back on the tried and true. Based on the first two episodes, *Death Comes To Town* is more peculiar than funny. It has its moments, and the return of one of Canada's greatest comedic creations is certainly welcomed, but it's not going to make anybody forget Cabbage Head.

Maurice Tougas

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ARTS · GUINEA PIG · BY KATHLEEN DELL 1995 words

The Great Guinea Pig

The Year of Living Experiments | Author A.J. Jacobs is the quintessential guinea pig PHOTO SUPPLIED

A.J. JACOBS' NEW BOOK SHOWS HIM AT HIS EXPERIMENTAL BEST, AND ALSO PROVES HIS WIFE IS A SAINT

THE YEAR OF LIVING EXPERIMENTS

By A.J. Jacobs, Simon and Schuster $32

★★★★☆

I read *The Guinea Pig Diaries* from front to back. Intro to acknowledgements, with one minor, tiny little exception. I skipped "Appendix A George Washington's 110 Rules of Civility and Decent Behaviour in Company and Conversation." My eyes glazed over around 27 and refocused around 100. But I really liked 110, being "labor to keep alive in your breast that little spark of celestial fire called conscience."

Neglecting an appendix or two doesn't seem like much to you or me, but it's slack ass compared to the feats of patience author A.J. Jacobs has dedicated his writing career, or rather, his entire life towards. This is a man who's read the entire *Encyclopaedia Britannica* (the entire encyclopaedia!) in an effort to become the smartest man in the world. He spent a year following the Bible as closely as possible to better understand his heritage (think grisly beard growth and the stoning of adulterers). And now Jacobs is offering his readers a little more enlightenment, and some hearty laughter, in the form of nine month-long, experiments: from doing everything his wife asks, to being radically honest, to living by George Washington's rules (hence the appendix).

Jacobs' is the kind of voice you instantly adore. From the first chapter, where he gets to play the part of a young, beautiful woman by convincing his nanny, Michelle, to let him co-pilot an Internet dating site for her, you can tell that he undertakes each experiment with nothing but good intentions and an open, yet solid moral compass.

He quickly falls into the role of Michelle's online bouncer, shutting down the creeps and rooting out the über-creeps (those are the guys who seem decent at first, but are, in fact, creepers). His work as an editor at *Esquire* not only motivates many of his articles (many were originally published in the men's magazine) but also serves as a secret weapon. Like when one potential suitor uses a technique from Neil Strauss' *The Game* — a kind of pickup line self-help book, or more to the point, a guide to being an über-creep. He quickly figures this guy is using a "neg" — insulting a pretty gal to undermine her confidence — and shuts him down, writing "I'm a magnet for scammers. Everyone wants down my pants. Michelle probably would have sniffed this guy out eventually, but I'm proud that I saved her from a date."

Jacobs' is that kind of superhero — understated, plodding but completely winning. His flaws and foibles, like he's a little OCD and a germaphobe (which makes any experiment that involves not having to shake hands ever so appealing to him) work to make every revelation that much more relatable. Each experiment involves varying degrees of success, enthusiasm and embarrassment, not to mention varying degrees of patience from his long-suffering wife. (Apparently, the month of radical honesty was the worst month of his life. The month where he outsourced his life to India, the best.) This is a man who is truly curious about the world around him and the people living in it, which makes every personal anecdote fascinating, thoroughly delightful and lol-funny. The one major problem: at 200 odd pages, it's far too short. Except, of course, Appendix A. That's more than long enough.

ARTS · COMEDY · BY MARK KANDBORG 1365 words

Being Tom Green: Rex Murphy To Dead Animals

TOM GREEN ISN'T A WEIRDO. ALEGEDDING TO SEE'S MARK KANDBORG, HE'S A NICE GUY, WITH AN DEAD PET BIRD.

TOM GREEN W/ VIZARD-TIP-WORLD TOUR | JUNG@ Centre Stage (West Edmonton Mall), Jan. 7-9, 8 p.m.

Tom Green's calling me tomorrow at 12:30 for an interview. My first emotion upon learning this is happiness I like Tom Green. I think he's got a lot of talent and I think he's carving out an interesting career. How many people get a chance to just sit and talk to him about being Green?

It didn't take long for my second emotional state to take over, however. Anxiety. He's a weird guy at least publicly. He's made an art form out of acting strangely and making people uncomfortable. Is he going to do the entire interview in a funny voice, or as some bizarre character? I'm about to stand directly in the line of fire of a loose cannon. The next 24 hours tick slowly by as I worry.

Finally, it's 12:28 and the phone rings. This is good, because it means he's a professional. It also means I have two minutes less to drive myself crazy. "Hi, this is Tom Green." Excellent.

He's calling from L.A. and he asks me about the weather up here. No funny voice. Far from trying to keep me off balance, he actually seems to be trying to make me feel comfortable. Just two guys talking. Clearly, I worry too much.

We're talking because he's about to begin doing stand-up, and he's decided to start his World Tour in our city. Why here?

"I've spent quite a bit of time in Edmonton. I used to go up there for Christmas a lot when I was a kid, 'cause my grandparents were from Edmonton and my aunt and uncle still live in Edmonton. There were a few places that we could have started the tour and Edmonton was one of the first clubs that came forward. And I just thought that was perfect." Stand-up has become a bit of an obsession with Tom. "It's something I've wanted to do my whole life," he tells me. He tried his hand at it while he was still in high school in Ottawa. "I started doing amateur nights. I was 16 years old and I would sort of brag to my friends at school, 'I'm a professional comedian. I got paid $20.' I remember sitting at the bar drinking Coca Cola with the other comics and thinking it was the coolest thing being in a bar, you know?"

Could this guy be any more normal? But he hints at the Tom Green we know with this story: "As soon as we found out there was a club we started going down there to kind of heckle, actually, and we ended up getting kicked out of the club. And then I sort of found out a week after I got kicked out that they had amateur nights and I thought, 'Oh, I've got to do that.' We signed up for it over the phone, sight unseen. We went down and they recognized us from getting kicked out. The manager said, 'Those kids can't go on stage, man. Those were the guys that were heckling.' But the bouncer who kicked us out convinced him that we should go on. Because of his experiences kicking us out. He thought we were kinda funny. So they let us go on. Then I started my show on Public Access and I never really went. And it's been this itch that I've been meaning to address, for the past 15 years, really."

I point out that when you're 16 years old, you're nobody up there. People aren't going to be too hard on you, expect too much. Now he's Tom Green. Capital Letters.

"People haven't seen me do stand-up before, so I already have a clean slate in a lot of ways. And I think that where I am is actually a real advantage. To be a little bit older, certainly, and to have all these stories and funny things that people can remember, and I can remind people of all the ridiculous things that I've done." (KAWW!)

What the hell was that? It sounded like some kind of animal, screaming. I decide to ignore it.

"I'm really proud of what I'm doing and I'm really excited to get up there and debut it. This will be the first sort of unveiling of it in Edmonton and that's going to make for a really (KAWW!) a good (KAWW!) (KAWW!) show."

"Right. Wow," I say. "That's interesting, because you'd think in the animal kingdom it would have to be pretty clear. I guess other birds wouldn't have to do a blood test, they would just know. The way she's standing there, looking at them."

"I've gotta look into how that works exactly, a bit more. But that's what they tell me. They weren't really definitive when I bought Rex whether or not it was a boy or a girl. They had no clue. They just knew it was a bird."

I point out that irony has been a big part of Tom Green's career. And animals. Like on his first Canadian talk show. "The thing with the beaver I remember really well", I tell him. "The dead beaver."

"Oh yeah?", he says. (Pause) "I don't know if we ever had a dead beaver."

Didn't you have a dead beaver? I'm certain of it.

"There was a lot of dead stuff, though. I can't remember because there was a lot of road kill involved in the show. But there was never a dead beaver. I can say that because that would have been almost too, you know, anti-Canadian. Can't have a dead beaver. But we had dead groundhogs," he offers.

I concede that maybe it was a groundhog.

"There were dead moose, dead cats, all sorts of dead stuff. Basically, we shot the show on the road. We'd drive across the country with a [illegible] camera... (KAWW!) and there was eventually a little road kill because we didn't have a prop budget, you know?"

"But you did have a vehicle and [illegible]"

"[illegible] Those were the days [illegible] the day."

So Tom Green draws the line at a dead beaver. "Well, we also never found a dead beaver. You never know what would've happened if we found one."

So, what are your plans for the future?" I ask. "Or do you even think that way?"

"No, I definitely think that way. I'm somebody who probably wishes he didn't think that way so much, but I'm sort of meticulous in the way I plan things. People probably wouldn't know that, but since you asked, the plan is to take this world tour, and combine it with my web television show, which I do from home. I'm actually going to join the two things together and have them work off each other. I'll be bringing my camera to Edmonton and I'll be filming after the show, probably during the show, on the way to the show, all around Edmonton. And I'm going to be bringing that experience to my viewers on the website. The idea is to link it all together into one thing."

As we talk into the afternoon I realize that I couldn't have been more wrong about this guy. This cannon is grounded and on target. And I can't imagine having spoken to a more enthusiastic, focused or likable celebrity.

And he loves what he's doing, and he's passionate about his show. "I'm really excited. You can only really do your show for the first time once."

"But no dead beavers."

(KAWW!)

"You never know."

Going Green | Ottawa boy Tom Green puts on his best Rex Murphy face. PHOTO SUPPLIED

"PEOPLE HAVEN'T SEEN ME DO STAND-UP BEFORE, SO I HAVE A CLEAN SLATE IN A LOT OF WAYS. AND I THINK THAT WHERE I AM IS ACTUALLY AN ADVANTAGE. TO BE A BIT OLDER ... I CAN REMND PEOPLE OF ALL THE RIDICULOUS THINGS THAT I'VE DONE."

ARTS • OBITUARY • BY STACEY LAWRENCE | 529 words

Remembering Lhasa

THE MONTREAL FOLK SINGER/STRESS LOST HER BATTLE WITH CANCER ON NEW YEAR'S DAY

A sensationally exotic young voice is quiet now Singer and songwriter Lhasa De Sela passed away on Monday in Montreal on New Year's Day after a 21 month struggle with breast cancer She was 37 years old

"People were drawn to her instantly," says Monica Miller, CKUA Radio's host of How I Hear It. "She was one of those artists who appeared out of nowhere. She was unique and very real. There was nothing forced or false about her style. She was exactly how she appeared to be She was mesmerizing " And that is the word that everyone seems to describe her with. I believe she came by it naturally

Lhasa grew up in a world that was far from conventional Like the gypsy sound that echoes across each of her albums she spent much of her childhood crisscrossing across the American and Mexican boarder in a converted bus with her American mother, Mexican father and siblings With television being banned from the household, entertainment revolved around theatre and song

She was 13 when she first sang in a cafe in San Francisco, 19 when she sang in bars in Montreal and 25 at the release of her first album *La Llorona* And though she was born in Big Indian, New York and her first language was English, her first album is sung entirely in Spanish. A mix of Latin American, Mexican, alternative rock and her own smoldering sound and lyrics, it was a hit It won her a Felix Prize for world music and a Juno Award for best global artist and then it sold more than 700,000 copies

But she didn't stop there After its release she toured for two years and then, exhausted, joined her sisters in their theatrical circus in France It was a time to regroup, reevaluate and reform her sound She followed love to Marseilles and wrote a new album, *The Living Road*, sung in Spanish, French and English While her first album is raw emotion, her second seems a little less so She is keeping some of it to herself, Her voice is refined and evocative. This one earned her a BBC Music Award for best artist in the Americas Ever changing, ever growing, her third album *Lhasa*, released in 2009 is entirely in English

Her own lyrics describe her struggle best. "I got caught in a storm and carried away." In June the decision was made to cancel her tour stating that it was "prudent to wait for a full recovery" that never came

Her Music Is For Remembering | Lhasa passes away on New Year's Day PHOTO SUPPLIED

Miller recalls when Lhasa was in Edmonton doing an interview at the old Sidetrack Café. When describing her music, Lhasa said that there is music for forgetting and music for remembering Music for forgetting is about the happy times The celebrations. Music for remembering makes you stop and ponder the real questions

Lhasa said, "My music is for remembering." And so we will

EXHIBITS

LUCK BE A LADY *VARIATIONS OWNER THEATRE (WEM)* TO JAN 23 A tribute to the music of Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin, and other Vegas legends

PETER PAN *ARDEN THEATRE, #5 ST ANNE ST, ST. ALBERT* JAN 24 David O'Connor directs the famous story of the eternally young Peter Pan and his journey through the magical island of Neverland. Tickets: www.ardentheatre.org

THE SPIRIT GARDEN *THE ARTERY, 9535 JASPER AVE* 16615-109 AVE TO FEB 14 A tribute to the far-out music and fashion of the 70s music. Tickets: www

HOT PICK
Adam Hunter
Tickets at www.

THUNDERSTICK *ROXY THEATRE, 10708-124 ST, JAN 17-31* Bradley Moss and Del Surtik direct Lorne Cardinal

WINGFIELDS LOST AND FOUND *CITADEL THEATRE, 9828-101A AVE JAN 9-31* Douglas Beattie directs Rod beattie in the story of a farmer facing a crippling drought, and his comical journey of his daily challenges. Info. 426-4811

COMEDY

ADAM HUNTER *THE COMIC STRIP (WEM) JAN 13-17* Tickets: www.thecomicstrip.ca

WHYTE AVE. every Tuesday and Wednesday at 8 p.m. Info 476-1010/www.theliaisonlounge.ca

THE BEST OF EDMONTON FOR talent night. Tuesdays at 6 p.m. Info www.thecomicstrip.ca

sional and amateur comedians, every Sun @ 9 p.m.

SAMMY *WINSPEAR CENTRE, 9700 102 AVE JAN 12* A night of comedy celebrating the journey amputees and their families. 7 p.m. Tickets: www.winspearcentre.com

HITMAN THORNTON *COMEDY FACTORY, #408 3414 BELGRAVIA ST, JAN 8-9* Info 439-6098

HIT OR MISS MONDAYS *THE COMIC STRIP (WEM)* Amateur comedy. Doors @ 8 p.m. Info www.thecomicstrip.ca 434-1878

THE LYRICS BAR'S COMEDY *ART SPACE, 10299-100 AVE* Tuesdays at 9 p.m.

SEAN KENT *THE LAUGH SHOP, 2ND FLOOR, 10368 WHYTE AVE JAN 12* 17 Tickets: www.thelaughshop.ca

TOM GREEN *THE COMIC STRIP (WEM) TO JAN 9* Tickets: www.thecomicstrip.ca

TYLER HAWKINS *THE LAUGH SHOP, 2ND FLOOR, 10368 WHYTE AVE. TO JAN 10* Info www.thelaughshop.ca

IMPROV

by Rapid Fire Theatre. Every Sat except for last Sat of the month. Doors @ 11 p.m. Info. www.rapidfiretheatre.com

empowered soup opera. Mondays at 7:30 p.m.

PEOPLE IN PANTS IMPROV *CARROT COMMUNITY ARTS, COFFEE HOUSE, 9351-118 AVE* Weekly improv show first Thu of the month. Doors at 7:30 p.m. $5 at the door.

HOT PICK
WRITERS & SHORT FELLOWS
T.A.L.E.S.
Storytelling Circle
CITY ARISTOCRATIC

Fire Theatre, every Fri. Doors @ 11 p.m. $10 at the door. Info: www.rapidfiretheatre.com

READINGS & LECTURES

A. MILNER LIBRARY, 87 SIR WINSTON CHURCHILL SQUARE Every Friday at 2 p.m. Info. 496-7000

AN EVENING OF POETRY *UPPER CRUST CAFE, 10909-86 AVE* Mondays at 7 p.m.

FIGHT POVERTY AND HOMELESSNESS *BOYLE MCCAILEY HEALTH CENTRE 10628-96 ST JAN 12* A lecture by John Kolkman, 7 p.m.

CHURCH, 11140-84 AVE JAN 12 Joan Urban Farmer Rose Berezan, 100 Mile Dieter Noe MacKay, and SPIN gardener Janette Hubka for a discussion and ideas as they share their expertise about community, garden, and the goodness of local food 7 p.m.

Tuesday with local poets. 6 p.m. Info: 902-5900

T.A.L.E.S. *CITY ARTS CENTRE, 10943-84 AVE.* A monthly story telling circle. Second Friday of each month, 8 p.m. Info 932-4409.

THEATRE

WHYTE AVE. every Tuesday and Wednesday at 8 p.m. Info 476-1010/www.theliaisonlounge.ca

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DANCE

VITEN UKRAINIAN DANCERS SOCIETY *MERIDIAN BANQUET HALL, 4829-75 AVE JAN 9* Auction and dance, 6 p.m. Tickets: 465-4634/728-8621

have something going on? let us know. listings@see.greatwest.ca deadline: one week prior to publication

SEX • ADVICE | 1,38 words

'I Can't Stop Feeling Like I'm A Huge Pervert'

SAVAGE LOVE DAN SAVAGE

A WOMAN WITH WORRIES ABOUT ROLE-PLAYING GAMES BETWEEN CONSENTING ADULTS

I am a queer lady in my 20s My boyfriend and I recently discovered that we are both into BDSM We started with some light bondage and spanking, added some role-play, and are moving toward some heavier stuff. I've spent some time reading online BDSM erotica, and here's what's stressing me out: I tend to gravitate toward stories that include age play (underage girls with older men). I think pedophilia is wrong and disgusting, yet I get off on the stories. I can't stop feeling like I'm a huge pervert. Also, what is a good way to introduce the idea of age play to my boyfriend without sounding perverted? Is age play perverted?

Feeling Like A Pervert

You're already doing BDSM, FLAP, so it's a little late to start concerning yourself with what is and isn't perverted. I'm not saying that BDSM is perverted – it isn't in my opinion – but the kind of people who obsess about the supposed perversity of other people's sex lives regard BDSM as hella perverted, as the kids were only too recently saying

All you need to concern yourself with, FLAP, is consent – obtaining consent before anything goes down, maintaining a state of consent once things get going So are you a consenting adult, FLAP? Is your partner a consenting adult? Yes and yes? Then you're free to do whatever the hell you want in the sack – and that includes pretending that one of you isn't a consenting adult.

Adults can safely and ethically explore through fantasy and role-play things that we wouldn't (because they're wrong) or couldn't (because they're impossible) do in reality A nice girl who would never dream of ever actually owning a human being can pretend to own a sex slave without having to forfeit her "nice girl" status, a decent guy who would never commit the crime of rape can pretend to rape a partner with rape fantasies without having to forfeit his "decent guy" status The same goes for age play, FLAP

As for telling the boyfriend about it without sounding perverted: Sorry, FLAP, can't help you there Its going to sound perverted – and sick and wrong – because the scenario you want to explore is all kinds of sick and wrong. Just own it when you tell him about it: "I know this is crazy and fucked up, but these stories really turn me on." You don't want to fuck kids, you want to pretend to be the kid your boyfriend fucks He doesn't want to fuck kids; he wants to fuck you while you're pretending to be a kid

My roommate and best friend is a good-looking, professional young man with a conservative sensibility and traditional values. Recently, one of his married coworkers (an attractive, bright, and sexy young lady in his appropriate age group) has been pursuing him to have an affair. I've met her personally, and she's a very cool girl Confident, socially graceful, and fun. She is currently in the process of legally separating from her husband (her only sexual partner), who over the last year or so has completely cut her off sexually

My roommate is a good guy and wants no part of a sexual relationship with her while she's married. Even if she does separate, he is worried about being a rebound and simply not wanting to deal with the emotional baggage that comes with being her first sexual experience outside of her current husband. I've told him to wait until she's separated, but then to go for it. Nothing ventured, nothing gained, right? He's my best friend, and I don't want to see him hurt. I also know that she's a cool person who will be scooped up by some lucky guy if he doesn't do the right things now.

Dude In Seattle

Let me see if I follow you: If this woman were unmarried and unattached, DIS, your friend with the "traditional values" wouldn't have any problem fucking her? A point of order. When did premarital sex become a "traditional value"?

Frankly, DIS, I don't care if your buddy fucks this woman or not. (I think he should. lots of rebounds turn into wonderful and lasting relationships, lots of solid marriages had squalid beginnings.) I'm just curious how we got to the point where anything goes – premarital sex, oral and anal sodomy, multiple marriages (hey there, Karl Rove!) – for heterosexuals and nothing is a violation of "traditional values" so long as the fornicators are straight How did we get to the point where an unmarried straight man with shit on his dick and three different women's pubes in his mouth can claim to have a "conservative sensibility and traditional values"?

How'd that happen?

As for your friend, DIS, I've known a few guys who went on and on about how attracted they were to a particular woman and how much they wanted to fuck her in all of her orifices and eat her pussy until she came so hard she basically turned inside out but just couldn't bring themselves to have hot, premarital, heterosexual sex because some technicality or other violated their traditional values All of those guys eventually came out of the closet Just sayin'

Could you wax philosophical for a paragraph or two, Dan, about a column from a few weeks ago? I want to know what makes Sexually Frustrated Fetishist's preference to involve feet in sex morally preferable to his partner's preference not to do so? Why is her insistence on her preference "selfish" while his insistence merely reflects his "sexual fulfilment"? More generally, what's the reason for your tendency to side with the person who wants to do x, even to the point of encouraging infidelity, over the person who doesn't want to do x, when the more intuitive answer might be "Gee, maybe you guys just aren't sexually compatible?"

Skeptical Erotic Compromises

I don't always side with the kinksters, SEC I've come down squarely on the side of the person who doesn't want to do "x" – I've backed women who didn't want to cuckold their husbands, and guys who didn't want to have same-sex contact during a threesome – on many occasions. But I do encourage people to be good, giving, and game (GGG) which only requires us, as I've explained again and again, to consider our partner's reasonable sexual requests I've nev-

SAVAGE cont'd on p. 24

ADULTS CAN SAFELY AND ETHICALLY EXPLORE THROUGH FANTASY AND ROLE-PLAY THINGS THAT WE WOULDN'T OR COULDN'T DO IN REALITY.

SAVAGE (cont'd from p. 23)

er suggested that any and all sexual requests must be fulfilled

I'll wax now for a moment: The odds that any one of us will wind up with a partner whose sexual interests align perfectly with our own are essentially zero. Since no two people are a perfect fit sexually, SEC, both partners must engage in a good-faith give-and-take to craft a mutually satisfying sexual repertoire that doesn't leave either person feeling resentful or badly used. Does everyone get everything they want? Nope. But each of us has a right to put our needs out there and a concurrent responsibility to meet our partner's needs if at all possible. And each of us should have the sense to pull the plug when the sexual disconnect is too great

As to the particulars of SFF's case — what makes his request for foot action reasonable and his girlfriend's refusal to indulge him unreasonable — it comes down to just what is being asked of the nonkinky partner. SFF is asking his girlfriend to lick off her shoes every once in a while and allow him to treat her feet the way another man might treat his girlfriend's breasts. It's not too much to ask, SEC, and an unselfish lover wouldn't regard it as too much to give

Find the Savage Lovecast (my weekly podcast) every Tuesday at thestranger.com/savage
mail@savagelove.net

ASTROLOGY · **JAN. 7-13** · BY THE KID

CRUISIN' THE COSMOS

CAPRICORN (DEC. 22 - JAN. 19)
The more you mope like a dope, the more you lose sight of the rope that's hangin' right there for you to ascend and escape if you dare. This week, when you feel like it's time to climb, fine. Move on up 'n' don't be afraid to leave your troubles behind!

AQUARIUS (JAN. 20 - FEB. 18)
If you were a camel, would you say "yes" to that one golden straw, even though it's a fact the extra weight would break your poor back? Well, you'll find out this week 'cause your strength's reached its peak but you'll still be offered something unique. Lighten your load before accepting more or you'll end up extremely sore!

PISCES (FEB. 19 - MARCH 20)
Worry not what religions may sayeth you've got your own path that you follow with faith. You just need to keep truckin' on through and don't let the nay-sayers start messin' with you. If they just can't see you're livin' spiritually, show 'em how well love works when it's dogma-free!

ARIES (MARCH 21 - APRIL 19)
You need a new soul-style 'cause the cosmic comb-over you're rockin' right now is a spiritual faux pas — and how! Y'see, you've got love to spare when it comes to the fringes but you're kinda bald in the middle, on which your style totally hinges. This week, stimulate growth on the crown of your head by focusin' love on yourself instead!

TAURUS (APRIL 20 - MAY 20)
If you're still a-partyin' you don't have to defend it 'cause for you Taureans, the holidays still haven't ended. That's right, you don't need to fight the feelin' that debauchery's appealin'. If you still feel like havin' fun, you'd better get on it before your holiday's done!

GEMINI (MAY 21 - JUNE 20)
Job security, good pay and the odd perk — but you'd still be crazy to continue this work. This week, don't be afraid to leave the scene, the reason being that sometimes, on the other side, the grass is more green. And you ain't gonna find that grazin' ground if you don't take a chance and just stick around

CANCER (JUNE 21 - JULY 22)
Now, you water signs ain't exactly known for aggressiveness or makin' the first move, but you'll have to do so this week if there's somethin' you wanna prove. There ain't no debatin' your infinite worth, but now it's up to you to convince the rest of the Earth!

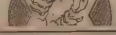
LEO (JULY 23 - AUG. 22)
Right now, luck ain't on the side of your pride. Now, we ain't talkin' your crew of cats here, we're talkin' concert. Unless you wanna get knocked off your feet and start to stumble, you'd better be humble. If you can manage to stay meek, luck'll be friendly with you all week!

VIRGO (AUG. 23 - SEPT. 22)
At the start of the week you may feel like you're under attack, when it's really your perceptions that are holdin' you back. If you can stay calm, cool and collected you'll see it ain't you at whom the bullets are directed. 'Retreatin' now would be a sin, cause standin' your ground'll mean you automatically win!

LIBRA (SEPT. 23 - OCT. 22)
No amount of poetic grace'll help you to sidestep karma when it's all up in your face. Nope, there's only one option to choose and that's give up what's causin' the trouble, or lose. When you're dealin' with Karma, it dictates the terms — make the sacrifice or you're dinner for worms!

SCORPIO (OCT. 23 - NOV. 21)
Y'know, it seems pretty dumb to think you've lost when the game hasn't even reached an outcome. If you can stay honest, loving and open, there's still a good chance to get what you've been hopin'. At least it's better than payin' the cost of sullin' in defeat when you haven't yet lost!

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22 - DEC. 21)
Bein' happy with what you've got is OK with some folks, but with you, it's not. That's 'cause you archers keep your eyes on the horizon since your vision's so broad — and if you don't try to reach for it, you feel like a fraud. By always movin' towards it, you do the right thing, regard less of the temporary trouble it brings!



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190. Announcements

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200. Business/Invest. Oppor.

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410. Education/Training

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1500. Help Wanted — Alta.

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2005. Artist to Artist

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SYDNEY CROSBY game tickets for the Oilers January 14 game against the Pittsburgh Penguins. This is the only Pittsburgh game for the next 2 years. These tickets are for fans in rural Alberta/NWT only. $249 each, dinner included. Seats are limited! Call Dash Tours and Tickets 1-800-[illegible].

3240. Travel/Trade

TIMESHARE RESALES - Save 60 - 80% off retail! Worldwide locations! Call for free magazine! 1-800-731-8046; www.holidaygroup.com/sc.

4040. Livestock

HORSE BREEDERS & Owners Conference, January 15 - 17 in Red Deer. 18 educational sessions on variety of horse related topics. Info/registration at www.albertahorseindustry.ca. Phone 403-420-5949.

4310. Grain/Feed/Hay

ALFALFA mixed hay rounds $100. Second cut squares $9. Wheat straw rounds $100. 403-850-3669.

HAY SALE / Delivery and photography, a family run business. Call 480-298-1846.

HEATED/GREEN Canola wanted. Buying green, heated or frozen Canola...Buying: oats, barley, wheat & peas for feed...Buying damaged or offgrade grain. "On farm Pickup". Westcan Feed & Grain 1-877-250-5252.

ROUND HAY BALES for sale, cheap. Delivery available. Self unloading. No Sunday calls please. 403-843-6380.

5100. Houses For Sale

2010 DREAM home/cottage project? Save up to $30,000.! Factory direct surplus inventory liquidation. Save 50%+ while they last. Modular pre-built component packages - faster/easier dry-in shell - labour save $1000's! Certified plans. Warranty. References. 100's of dreams delivered to happy families. Green-R-Panel Prefabricated Building Systems. The smart way to build. 1-800-871-7089. Call today! $2,000. reserves spring/summer delivery.

PROVINCE-WIDE CLASSIFIEDS. Reach over 1 million readers weekly. Only $259. + GST (based on 25 words or less). Call this newspaper NOW for details.

5800. Manuf. Homes - Sale

2010 MODELS - Immediate free delivery anywhere in Alberta. 20 X 76, 1500 sq. ft. loaded with options. $117,900. 1-800-463-0084, www.jandelhomes.com.

CROSS COUNTRY HOMES - Winter Clearance. 1520 sq. ft., 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, 20 X 76 manufactured home. Only $112,700. Savings of $9,000. Lots of homes reduced! 780-470-8000.

LAST OF THE Clearance Models Left! 4 - 20 wides, 2 - 16 wides, 5 sectionals! Starting from $69,900. Special promo on orders for spring delivery. Call 1-800-689-6953; www.econocottages.com.

NEED A NEW HOME or cottage for spring. New plans in stock. 22 X 76, 1672 sq. ft. starting at $117,850. Order now and avoid the disappointment of higher prices and longer waiting time. Visit our show lot at Pleasant Homes or call us at 780-[illegible] or 1-888-[illegible].

5800. Manuf. Homes - Sale

SPRING DELIVERY SPECIAL. December 1, 2009 to March 1, 2010. Order your modular home for spring delivery and receive $5000. factory direct discounts. Single and multi section homes delivered by June 30, 2010 qualify. Ask about in stock specials. Best Buy Homes. Airdrie 1-877-275-5555. Red Deer 1-877-396-5564.

6100. Cars

$0 DOWN at Auto Credit Fast. Need a vehicle? Good or bad credit call Stephanie 1-877-792-0599; www.autocreditfast.ca. DLN 30309.

BANKRUPT? BAD CREDIT? Call us! All makes and models. Professional credit rebuilders. Delivery Available. Call Garth 403-888-5593 or 1-866-476-1938. Cavalcade Auto Acceptance Corp., serving Alberta for 20 years.

NEED A VEHICLE? Need cash? Up to $10,000. cash back! Guaranteed approvals! Over 400 vehicles to choose from. Call Will or Ashley today! 1-888-289-6935.

SAVE UP TO $400. on your car insurance. Clean driving record? Call Grey Power today at 1-866-428-0890 for no-obligation quote. Additional discounts available.

7205. Psychics

LOVE! Money! Life! #1 Psychics! 1-877-478-4410. Credit cards/deposit. $3.19/minute. 18+. 1-900-783-3800; www.mysticalconnections.ca.

7245. Misc. Services

$500. LOAN Service, by phone, no credit refused, quick and easy, payable over 6 to 12 installments. Toll Free 1-877-776-1660; www.moneyprovider.com.

CLEAN DRIVING RECORD? Grey Power could save you up to $400. on your car insurance. Call 1-888-623-5050 for no-obligation quote. Additional discounts available.

CRIMINAL RECORD? Think: Canadian pardon. U.S. travel waiver. (24 hour record check). Divorce? Simple. Fast. Inexpensive. Debt recovery? Alberta collection to $25,000. Calgary 403-228-1300/1-800-347-2540.

DEBT CONSOLIDATION PROGRAM. Helping Canadians repay debts, reduce or eliminate interest, regardless of your credit. Steady income? You may qualify for instant help. Considering bankruptcy? Call 1-877-220-3328. Free consultation, government approved, BBB member.

8005. Personals

#1 PARDON SERVICE. We can remove your criminal record in 6 months! Receive free pardon or waiver evaluation. We guarantee it. Ask for details! Call toll free 1-800-298-5520; www.canadianpardons.ca.

DATING SERVICE. Long-term/short-term relationships, free calls! 1-877-297-9883. Exchange voice messages, voice mailboxes 1-888-534-6984. Live adult casual conversations - 1 on 1 - 1-866-311-9640. Meet on chat-lines. Local single ladies 1-877-804-5381 (18+).

MAKE YOUR RESOLUTION a reality! And, your first 15 lbs. are free. Look great. Feel great. Lose weight. Guaranteed. Call Herbal Magic 1-800-926-4363. Limited time offer.

9420. Adult Services

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wickedfetishdomina.com

9160. Adult Personals

Sizzle with SEXY Singles
Call 780-490-2257
Or 800-210-1010
Free w/ code 4995
www.livelinks.com

9450. Adult Massage

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[illegible]

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Isabelle - [illegible] green-eyed sexy brunette.
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www.passionsspa.com
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42987342

QUESTION:

WHERE WOULD YOU TAKE SHERLOCK HOLMES TO RING IN THE NEW YEAR?

ONE OF MANY GREAT ANSWERS FROM SEE'S "WHERE WOULD YOU TAKE SHERLOCK HOLMES" CONTEST

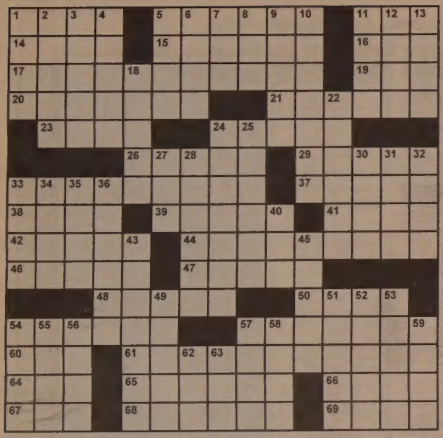
ANSWER:

I met up with Sherlock on Thursday afternoon, around 3:30. We took our tea at Moriarty's house in Riverdale, then had a few alcoholic beverages at Sherlock Holmes downtown (I had to — I thoroughly enjoy puns). We then proceeded to dress up like dinosaurs in preperation for a "Sluts n' Dinosaurs" themed New Year's party hosted by my friends and me. Sherlock is a surprisingly good seamstress (he helped me with my outfit)!

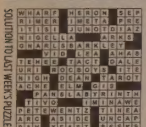
The party started at 9 p.m., and was held in the basement of 10715-124th St.. My lil' group of friends has been searching high and low for a place in which to continue throwing art+muzak shows, and we found it! [Here's where I plug this in artmuzak.ca]

The blue moon of New Year's eve cast a fortuitous glow on our celebrations, as well as on Sherlock's tobacco pipe. We hugged, we kissed, we danced, we drank copious amounts of libations, and at the end of it all, Sherlock proclaimed his love for Bohemia and offered to host a murder mystery there next month (we'll keep ya posted on that one). All-in-all, I'd have to admit, Sherlock has a surprisingly voracious appetite for partying — great guy with which to hang ... just don't let him near the turntables.

—Sheena



SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE



BEST OF THE DECADE, PART 5

2008-2009.

JONESIN' CROSSWORD BY MATT JONES

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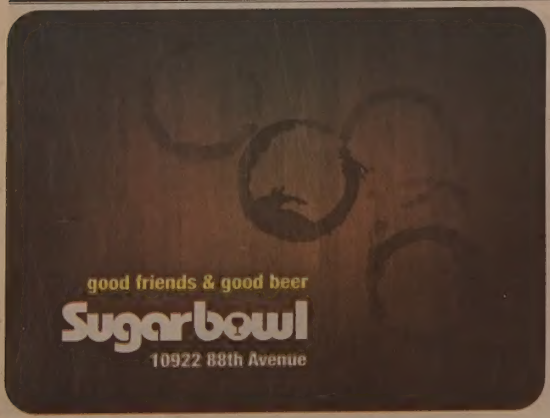
ACROSS

1 Last.fm's #1 pick for Best Artist of 2008
5 Lo-cal dishes
11 Start of the yr.
14 Regenerist skin care company
15 South American wildcat
16 "__ seen worse..."
17 A clip of his "Inside Edition" meltdown made Huffington Post's #1 spot on "YouTube's Best of 2008: Top Ten"
19 Fit, as requirements
20 Gifted people
21 Fiber __
23 Actor Rob
24 Large arterial trunk
26 Like some Greek columns
29 Troy story
33 Documentary on many best movie lists of 2008
37 Not quite exact
38 "In the Valley of __" (2007 Tommy Lee Jones film)
39 Nix
41 Getting __ years
42 "Grease __ word!"
44 A fake "RIP" tweet about him (after the VMA broadcast) made PopEater.com's "Best Celebrity Twitter Stories of 2009"
46 Luxury watch brand
47 NFL Network journalist Rich, once partnered on ESPN with Stuart Scott
48 Julia of "Julie & Julia"
50 "The stuff that belongs to the person you just broke up with" (George Carlin)
54 __ States (group that includes Bulgaria)
57 Agitated
60 __-ray (HD movie option)
61 With "The," inspirational bestseller that made About.com's "Top 10 Books of 2008"
64 Sine __ non
65 Tooth substance
66 Red Sox or White Sox player, briefly
67 Laura Bush's alma mater
68 Grabs control of
69 TV.com's #1 pick for "Coolest Cast on Campus" for 2009

DOWN

1 Angry throngs
2 Type of cells that provide support for neurons
3 John Lee convicted of the 2002 Beltway sniper attacks
4 Two-time All-Pro cornerback currently with the Denver Broncos
5 Do some post office work
6 Deck quartet
7 Hawaiian wear that spawns corny jokes
8 100%
9 Sorrow
10 Type of pencil that stops bleeding
11 Hendrix on the guitar
12 Opposite of sans
13 Volleyball needs
18 __ a million
22 Candle material
24 Reason for some sirens
25 About 71% of the earth's surface
27 Pained cries
28 It's more than your and my two cents' worth
30 Actress Skye
31 Garage sale condition
32 Fender bender result
33 Former Israeli PM Golda
34 Likewise
35 From coast to coast: abbr.
36 Expression akin to "shucks"
40 Joe-__ weed (healing plant)
43 Lets it all out?
45 Funk & Wagnalls offering: abbr.
49 Ludicrous
51 Do some price fixing?
52 "Never __ moment"
53 Make baby food
54 Backyard cookouts, for short
55 Homecoming attendee, sometimes
56 Hawaiian feast
57 Swiss abstract painter Paul
58 Long swimmers
59 Father, in France
62 Raphael's weapon, in "Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles"
63 Gossip show that was recently hoaxed on a fake JFK photo

MUNICIPAL HAPPENINGS · WITH BILL BENSON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free stuff
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For full contest details go to seemagazine.com

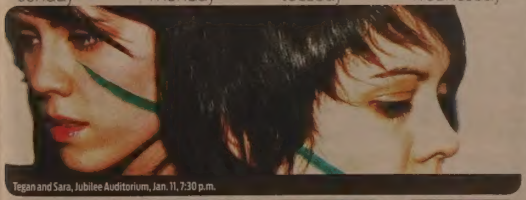
INTERSECTIONS · PHOTOS OF OUR NEIGHBOURHOODS

tOb

Presbytera Donna, left, exits the warmth of Saints Peter and Paul Orthodox Mission as Father Bohdan rings the bells after the Divine Liturgy.
PHOTO BY JOHN ULAN/EPIC PHOTOGRAPHY

see magazine's ten-day forecast of events in edmonton

sunday | monday | tuesday | wednesday | thursday | friday | saturday



Tegan and Sara, Jubilee Auditorium, Jan. 11, 7:30 p.m.

JANUARY 7
music | **BLUE RODEO** Nothing makes our mouth water quite like the thought of Jim Cuddy in Wranglers and a tight flower-print cowboy shirt. Jubilee Auditorium, 7:30 p.m.

JANUARY 8
music | **IAN TYSON** If you missed the cool western sounds of Blue Rodeo last night catch this homegrown country legend at Spruce Grove's Horizon Stage tonight at 7:30 p.m.

JANUARY 9
dance | **VITER UKRAINIAN DANCERS SOCIETY** Hopak until you can't feel your face anymore, then bid on some items in the auction at Meridian Banquet Hall. 6 p.m.

JANUARY 10
music | **STUART AND WINONA DAVIS MEMORIAL ORGAN RECITAL** David Higgs helps put our city's finest live music venue to good use. Winspear Centre, 3 p.m.

January 11
music | **TEGAN AND SARA** Sisterly love at it's finest. Rock out to these chicks who walk with ghosts. Jubilee Auditorium, 7:30 p.m.

JANUARY 12
theatre | ***THUNDERSTICK*** Watching Lorne Cardinal of *Corner Gas* and Craig Lauzon of *Air Farce* throw up on the prime minister is reason enough to catch this tale of two journalists chasing the story of their careers. Roxy Theatre. 8 p.m.

JANUARY 13
music | **CADENCE WEAPON** Join Edmonton's poet laureate as he helps welcome the Olympic Torch to our fine city. Churchill Square, 6 p.m.

JANUARY 14
festival | **ICE ON WHYTE** Mr. Block of Ice, meet Mr. Chainsaw. This could get ugly, or beautiful. It really all depends on what you think of ice sculptures. Info: www.iceonwhyte.ca

JANUARY 15
exhibit | **FORGOTTEN LOVE AFFAIRS** Just when you thought you repressed those terrible memories, Stacey Cann goes ahead and paints them back to life. Latitude 53. Artist talk at 7 p.m.

JANUARY 16
music | **OF ANGELS** After releasing two albums and opening the Taste of Chaos tour in 2007, this local metal powerhouse was on its way to the top. But then they broke up. Catch their last of two reunion shows tonight at the Pawn Shop. 6 p.m.

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